

## **The Effect of Diameter on Dynamic Seabed Penetration**

by

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## Abstract

An accurate estimate of the undrained shear strength of seabed sediments is critical to the design of foundations and anchors of offshore structures. Naval mine warfare and undersea salvage also depend on the prediction of seafloor embedment depth, which is primarily a function of sediment strength. Direct measurement of *in-situ* sediment strengths in the offshore environment is often difficult using conventional methods, especially where depths prohibit the use of divers. Sediment core samples can be analyzed using various laboratory methods, including tri-axial and vane-shear testing, but sample disturbance during collection may introduce inaccuracy into these measurements.

Dynamic soil penetrometers have been increasingly employed in recent years to profile seafloor sediment strength. These penetrometers are normally deployed from the sea surface, with either the velocity or acceleration measured throughout the fall to the seafloor. Total embedment and undrained shear strength are estimated from the resulting measured velocity profile, using an algorithm first described by True and later refined by Rocker in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering*.

The method in the *Handbook* is a quasi-static approach, where work done on the penetrometer is calculated at each time step, and subtracted from the total kinetic energy before advancing to the next step. The empirical strain rate factors used in the calculations to modify the static bearing and shear strengths of the sediment are based on a best fit to penetration test data using long, cylindrical penetrometers of three inches or less in diameter. Although there are current algorithms for predicting dynamic penetration of the seafloor in the *Handbook*, recent experiments have indicated these algorithms tend to under predict the penetration of objects which are larger than three inches in diameter.

To improve the current algorithms, a numerical and experimental study of the seabed penetration event was conducted. A computational analysis of the seabed penetration problem was conducted using the LS-DYNA finite element analysis (FEA) code. LS-DYNA was used to model the experiments, and then the model predictions were compared with experimental results. The penetration depths predicted by the model showed good agreement with experimental results for cohesionless soils.

Using the USNA Oceanography Research Vessel (YP-686), three and nine inch penetrometers were repeatedly dropped off the stern and allowed to free fall to the seabed. An accelerometer attached to each penetrometer measured acceleration output beginning before release and continually throughout the drop. By integrating the acceleration data twice, the penetration depth could be calculated. Using this experimental data and equations available in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering*, new values were calculated for the strain rate factors of objects larger than three inches in diameter.

## Keywords

seabed mechanics, sediment, shear strength, penetrometer, strain rate

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## **The Effect of Diameter on Seabed Penetrometer Dynamic Performance**

MIDN 1/C Cate Ortman, USN

### **Introduction**

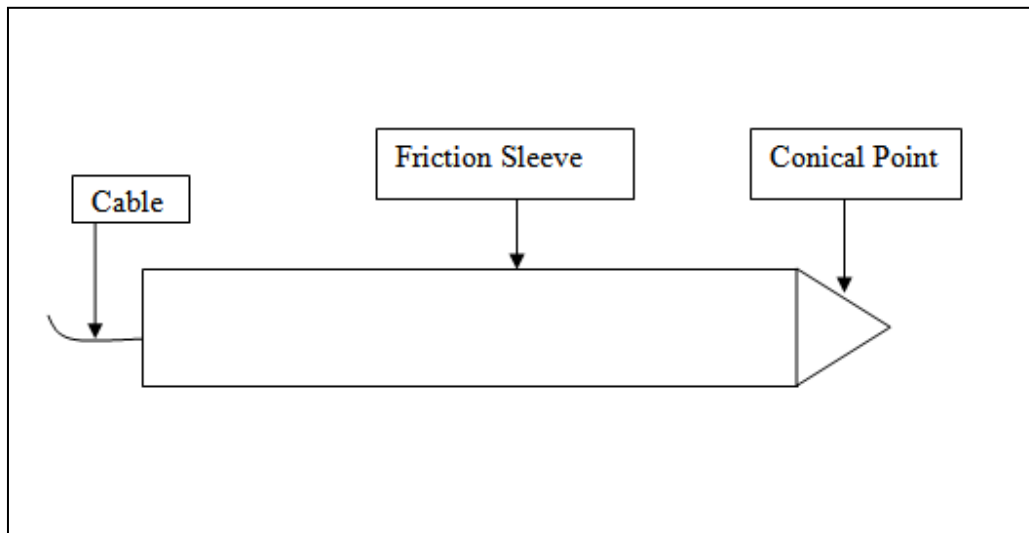
An accurate estimate of the undrained shear strength of seabed sediments is critical to the design of foundations and anchors of offshore structures. For many Navy applications, including Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions, mine countermeasures, and undersea salvage, accurate prediction of seafloor embedment depth, which is primarily a function of sediment strength, is critical to mission success. Direct measurement of *in-situ* sediment strengths in the offshore environment is often difficult using conventional methods, especially where depths prohibit the use of divers. Sediment core samples can be analyzed using various laboratory methods, including tri-axial and vane-shear testing, but sample disturbance during collection may introduce inaccuracy into these measurements. More recently, the Navy has used a dropped penetrometer called the eXpendable Doppler Penetrometer (XDP) to measure the undrained soil strength of seafloor sediments.

The XDP estimates sediment shear strength by measuring the instantaneous velocity of a sound source probe as it descends through the water and penetrates the seafloor. Soil strength is determined from the rate of velocity change of the penetrometer as it enters the seafloor and comes to rest. The research that the Navy has conducted was originally prompted by the requirement for a design of direct embedment anchor (Bowman, 1995). However, the XDP is now widely used by the Navy to characterize deep sea and littoral sediments worldwide.

## Background

Cone penetrometers, as shown in Figure 1, are commonly used in civil engineering to measure soil strength properties (Das, 2005). Dynamic soil penetrometers have been increasingly employed in recent years to profile seafloor sediment strength. The U.S. Navy has developed the XDP to determine *in-situ* soil strength in deep water depths. Penetrometers are normally deployed from the sea surface, with either the velocity or acceleration measured throughout their fall to the seafloor. Total embedment and undrained shear strength are estimated from the resulting measured velocity profile, using an algorithm first described by True (1976) and later refined by Rocker (1985). Using the XDP, cohesive soil strengths were studied in three different sites in Alaska and Washington State by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NFESC) in 2001 (Thompson, 2002). Also, cohesionless soil strengths were studied by NFESC using a calcareous sand site off the coast of Key West, FL and a denser quartz/mineral sand off the coast of Biloxi, MS (Orenberg, 1996). In the Gulf of Mexico, reasonable values for the undrained shear strength of soft clays were obtained using the acceleration measurements of an expendable penetrometer (Aubeny and Shi, 2006).





**Figure 1.** Basic penetrometer profile

Although there are current algorithms for predicting dynamic penetration of the seafloor already in use, recent experiments have indicated that these algorithms tend to under-predict the penetration of objects which are larger than three inches in diameter. One possible source of prediction error may be in the empirical strain rate constants developed by the Navy using experimental data. These previous Navy experiments used long, slender penetrators with diameters of 3.5 inches or less. When objects with diameters of 3 inches or more impact the seafloor, the strain rate effects may not scale linearly with diameter as the original Navy algorithms assume (Rocker, 1985).

For many Navy and civilian applications, accurate predictions of penetration depth is critical to mission success. Very few experiments have been conducted using penetrometers with larger diameters. For the purpose of mine burial prediction, experimentation using various size penetrometers was used to obtain bearing strength profiles of seafloor sediments in Australia (Mulhearn, 2002). As the diameter of the penetrometer increased, bearing strength decreased less rapidly, but still provided accurate penetration depth prediction. In agreement with his

results, Mulhearn recommended the use of the 190 mm (7.48 in) AUSSI (Australian Sediment Strength Instrument) and the 70 mm (2.76 in) STING (Seabed Terminal Impact Naval Gauge) for obtaining accurate bearing strength profiles. One method to improve current algorithms is to experimentally determine the effect of larger diameters on the empirical strain rate constants. Numerical modeling of the seabed penetration event may also be employed to better understand the dependence of diameter on sediment strain rates.

Engineering design has been using finite element analysis for over 30 years, but the accuracy of results for large deformation problems is still of concern. A finite element analysis of a penetrometer three inches in diameter or greater penetrating the seabed is considered large deformation because the penetrometer's vertical displacement is several times the diameter of the penetrometer. More recently, it has become possible to use finite element (FE) analysis to model large deformation problems because of improvements which allow for remeshing to avoid element distortion. In 2001, penetration in normally consolidated and heavily overconsolidated cohesive soils was modeled using the finite element program, elastoplastic-viscoplastic coupled system-soil (EPVPCS-S) by Voyiadjis and Kim. The results of the finite element analysis were compared with experimental data and very good agreement was shown for the profiles of cone resistance and excess pore water pressure. In 2004, the penetration of two soils, a sandy loam and clay loam, was modeled using MSC/DYTRAN, a commercially available finite element software (Foster et al., 2004). When compared to existing penetration data, the results of the FE analysis agreed with existing data for the sandy loam and under predicted penetration in the clay loam. Also in 2004, cone penetration of a cohesionless soil was modeled using ABAQUS, a commercial finite element program (Huang et al., 2004). The soil was modeled as an elastic-perfect-plastic obeying the Mohr-Coulomb criterion and penetrometer was assumed to be rigid.

Penetration depth in the model was found to be dependent on soil properties and the cone resistances calculated through FE analysis showed agreement with empirical correlations based on cavity-expansion theory. In 2007, cone penetration of a Norfolk sandy loam soil that varied in soil moisture content and bulk density was modeled using ABAQUS to predict the location of the hardpan in the soil (Tekeste et al., 2007). The finite element analysis was found to predict the hardpan to be located at depths shallower than experimental results. The main parameters found to be affecting the finite element analysis were soil moisture, bulk density, and cone surface conditions.

Currently, dynamic penetration of objects into the seafloor is typically predicted using a quasi-static approach described in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering* (Rocker, 1985). In this method, the work done on the penetrometer is calculated at each time step, and subtracted from the total kinetic energy before advancing to the next step. The empirical strain-rate constants used in the calculations to modify the static bearing and shear strengths of the sediment are based on a best-fit to penetration experiments conducted by True (1976) using long, cylindrical penetrometers of 90 mm (3.54 in) or less in diameter. Rocker also offers broad predictions of parameter values for all other object shapes (see Table 1) because little field data exists for objects of larger diameter. However, these parameter values for larger diameters are not based on experimental data. Rocker (1985) presents Equation 1 to calculate the strain rate factor,  $S_{ei}$ .

**Table 1.** Values of strain rate constants based on object shape (Rocker, 1985)

Condition for Use in Rapid Penetration Problems	Parameter Value		
	$S_{\dot{\epsilon}}^*$	$C_{\dot{\epsilon}}$	$C_o$
Problems with long, cylindrical penetrators	4	4	0.11
All other object shapes where inadequate penetration is of concern	3	10	0.25
All other object shapes where excess penetration is of primary concern	2	40	1

$$S_{ei} = \frac{S_{\dot{\epsilon}}^*}{1 + \frac{1}{\left[ C_{\dot{\epsilon}} \frac{v_{i-1}}{(s_{ui} D)} + C_o \right]^{0.5}}} \quad (1)$$

Where:

$S_{\dot{\epsilon}}^*$  = maximum strain rate factor, from Table 1

$C_{\dot{\epsilon}}$  = empirical strain rate coefficient from Table 1

$v_{i-1}$  = velocity entering the  $i$ th layer

$C_o$  = empirical strain rate constant, from Table 1

$s_{ui}$  = soil undrained shear strength equal to  $s_{ui(nose)}$  or  $s_{ui(side)}$ ,  
depending on which of these that  $S_{ei}$  is modifying

$D$  = equivalent diameter of penetrator

## Sediment Shear Strength

Shear strength is the measurement of a soil's ability "to resist failure and sliding along any plane inside it" (Das, 2005). In structural and mechanical engineering, a soil's shear strength determines the design of structures and selection of materials. To determine when a material will fail, the Mohr-Coulomb failure criteria is used (Equation 2).

$$\tau_f = c + \sigma \tan \phi \quad (2)$$

Where:

- $\tau_f$  = shear stress on the failure plane
- $\sigma$  = normal stress on the failure plane
- $c$  = cohesion
- $\phi$  = angle of internal friction

According to Equation 2, a material fulfills the criteria for failure when a "critical combination of normal and shear stress" is reached (Das, 2005). In saturated soil, such as the kind used in this research, the normal stress is a combination of effective stress and pore water pressure at a point in the soil. The effective stress is the average stress carried by the solids in the soil. The angle of internal friction,  $\phi$ , is the angle between the failure plane and the major principal plane, which can be determined by plotting Mohr's circles (Das, 2005).

Two types of laboratory tests are used to determine the shear strength of a soil, the direct shear test and triaxial shear test. The direct shear test uses a shear box which contains the specimen. The box is horizontally split, forming two halves. A normal force is applied to the top of the box while a shear force is applied by sliding the two halves in opposite directions until

failure occurs in the soil sample. “The direct shear test is the simplest and most economical for a dry or saturated sandy soil” (Das, 2005).

In this research, two types of soil sediments were analyzed, a clay and a sand. Clays can be characterized as a cohesive soil. Cohesive soils obtain their shear strength from the electrostatic forces between their soil grains. Sands can be characterized as a cohesionless soil. Cohesionless soils obtain their shear strength solely from the friction between their soil grains (McCarthy, 1998).

A direct shear test can be run on saturated specimens of cohesionless and cohesive sediments. By allowing the pore water to drain through a porous stone in the bottom of the shear box, the excess pore water pressure created in the sample entirely dissipates if the rate of loading is slow enough (Das, 2005). Since water can easily move through the pore spaces in sand, which gives sand a high hydraulic conductivity, the excess pore water pressure, created when the sample is loaded, dissipates rapidly. Thus, the friction angle in a dry sample of sand will be the same as a saturated sample (Das, 2005).

However, the hydraulic conductivity of clay is much lower than it is for sand, meaning water cannot easily move through the pore spaces in the clay. For an accurate direct shear test, it takes 2 to 5 days for the excess pore water pressure to drain from a saturated clay sample while the rate of loading is applied very slowly (Das, 2005). However, in this research, the load is being applied very quickly to the clay, giving the excess pore water pressure no time to drain. Therefore, the excess pore water pressure must be taken into account.

The triaxial shear test is a more reliable method for determining shear strength. The soil sample is placed in a chamber where it is subjected to both a confining pressure and axial stress. Increasing axial stress is applied until failure occurs (Das, 2005). Although there are three types

of triaxial tests, consolidated-drained, consolidated-undrained, and unconsolidated-undrained, only one was applicable in this research. The unconsolidated-undrained test does not allow drainage from the soil sample while the confining pressure is being applied. The test is mostly used to measure the shear strength of saturated cohesive soils (Das, 2005).

In this research, deformation of the seafloor sediment is happening very quickly (under a second), which does not allow time for the water to drain from the sediment, making the unconsolidated-undrained test the best choice. For saturated cohesive soils, the results of an undrained test produce total stress Mohr's circles with a horizontal failure envelope, meaning an internal friction angle of zero. The failure envelope is horizontal because the same added axial stress is needed to cause failure regardless of the confining pressure. For saturated soils, when the confining pressure is increased, the total stress increase is equal to the pore water pressure increase (Das, 2005).

For cohesionless sediment (sand), a friction angle other than zero is obtained. By varying the confining pressure, different major and minor principal stresses at failure will result. These values can be used to draw Mohr's circles and obtain a failure envelope. The failure envelope will have some slope greater than zero, which is the angle of internal friction (Das, 2005).

### **Theory of Dynamic Penetration**

An iterative procedure is used to calculate dynamic penetration because the resisting force terms in the problem are velocity dependent. During the procedure, the penetrator is stepped into the soil in equal finite depth increments or layers ( $\Delta z$ ). Using the entry velocities and soil properties of each step, the resisting soil and hydrodynamic forces are calculated by using Equation 3 from Rocker (1985).

$$F_i = F_{di} + W_{bi} - Q_{ni} - F_{si} - F_{hi} \quad (3)$$

Where:

$F_i$  = net downward force exerted by the penetrometer

$F_{di}$  = external driving force, if any

$W_{bi}$  = penetrator buoyant weight

$Q_{ni}$  = tip or nose bearing resistance

$F_{si}$  = side friction or adhesion

$F_{hi}$  = fluid drag force

The nose bearing resistance is found from calculated as

$$Q_{ni} = s_{ui(nose)} S_{ei} N_{ti} A_t \quad (4)$$

Where:

$s_{ui(nose)}$  = soil undrained shear strength at a depth  $D/2$   
below  $z$ , averaged over  $i$ th increment of penetration

$S_{ei}$  = strain rate factor

$A_t$  = end area of penetrometer

Similarly, the side friction at each step is found from

$$F_{si} = \left[ \frac{s_{ui(side)}}{S_{ti}} \right] S_{ei} A_s \quad (5)$$

Where:

$S_{ti}$  = soil sensitivity (obtained from soils testing)

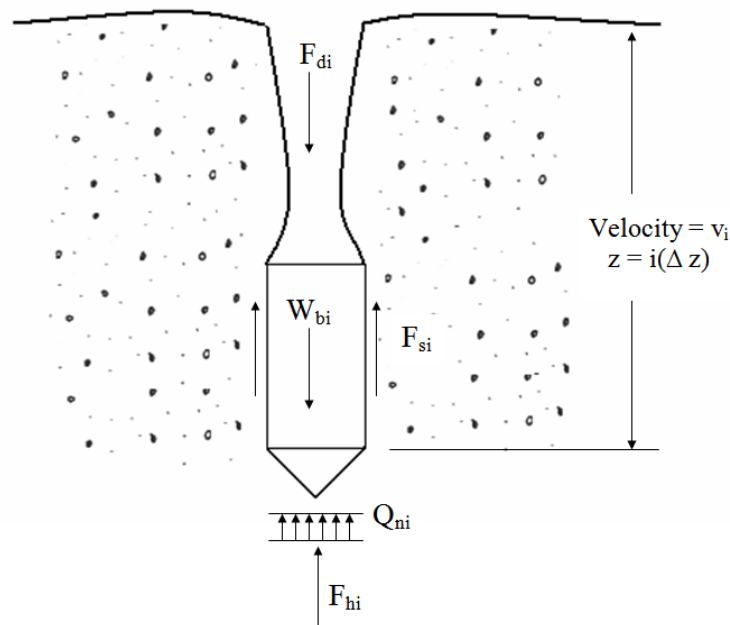
$A_s$  = side area of the penetrometer

$S_{ui(side)}$  = soil undrained shear strength averaged over the  
length of the penetrator in contact with the soil



The energy lost by the penetrator in overcoming the resistive forces of the first layer is equal to the work performed on the soil by the penetrator, and this reduced kinetic energy is used to calculate penetrator velocity entering the next layer. The calculations are repeated for each successive layer until the kinetic energy and velocity of the penetrator reaches zero. The depth of zero velocity is the predicted penetration depth (Rocker, 1985). Figure 2 illustrates this approach where  $z_i$  and  $v_i$  are the penetrometer position and velocity at step  $i$ . The forces  $F_{di}$  and  $W_{bi}$  are driving the penetrator into the soil, while the other three forces,  $Q_{ni}$ ,  $F_{si}$ ,  $F_{hi}$ , are resisting penetration.

Using this theory and experimental results of penetration depth, one can work in reverse of the procedure described above to determine the strain rate factor referred to in Equation 1 for a given situation. The strain rate factor,  $S_{ei}$ , is a variable in determining both nose resistance,  $Q_n$ , and side friction,  $F_s$ . Therefore, nose resistance and side friction can be determined from Equations 4 and 5 once the penetration depth is known.



**Figure 2.** Forces acting on a penetrometer during contact with the seafloor (Rocker, 1985)

## **Purpose of Project**

The objective of this project is to expand the applicability of existing algorithms for prediction of seabed penetration depth by (1) experimentally determining the effect of larger diameters on the empirical strain rate constants  $Se^*$ ,  $Ce$ , and  $Co$ ; and (2) to use numerical modeling of the seabed penetration event to better understand the dependence of diameter on sediment strain rates.

Dynamic penetration is considered to occur when an object impacts the seafloor traveling at a velocity of three feet per second or greater, regardless if the object was being rapidly lowered or free-falling (Rocker, 1985). Improvements of the existing algorithms will be made for better prediction of the depth of penetration into the seafloor of objects larger than three inches in diameter. The new algorithms may be used to predict the depth to which an object will penetrate or the force required for a specified depth penetration. These algorithms could apply to objects such as gravity anchors, gravity corers and penetrometers, and propellant-embedded anchor plates. Application of this research therefore applies not only to the Navy, but also to oil extraction, pile driving, and underwater mines.

## **Method of Investigation**

This research included both an experimental approach and numerical computer-aided analysis of the experimental approach. The experimental approach involved dropping penetrometers from the USNA Oceanography Research Vessel at three sites in the Chesapeake Bay. The drops were then modeled using LS-DYNA finite element analysis software. The research was conducted over a 9 month period from August 2007 to April 2008.

## *Numerical Analysis*

### **LS-DYNA Background**

A computational analysis of the seabed penetration problem was conducted using the LS-DYNA finite element analysis (FEA) code. LS-DYNA is a commercial version of the DYNA-3D Alternating Lagrangian-Eulerian (ALE) solver from Lawrence-Livermore National Laboratory (Hallquist, 2006). This code is particularly well-suited to modeling large displacement dynamic events and is used widely in the automotive and aerospace industries. A major advantage of LS-DYNA over other FEA packages is that several constitutive models for soil and fluid dynamics are included in the code, and additional soil models are available in the literature (Lewis, 2004). With these models, LS-DYNA is able to analyze both explosive-structure and soil-structure interaction problems (*LS-DYNA<sup>®</sup> Keyword*, 2007). LS-DYNA was used to model the experiments, and then the model predictions were compared with experimental results. The model time starts immediately before penetrometer impact and continues until the penetrometer stops. The model domain includes sufficient volume around the impact point so that the outer boundary remains undisturbed. Special care was taken in the development of the model to ensure that if model predictions showed reasonable agreement with experimental results, parametric study could be conducted using the model to further develop the empirical strain rate constants.

LS-DYNA uses explicit time integration as its main solution methodology (Hallquist, 2006). In this problem, the spatial discretization necessary for this process was achieved using a shell element for the penetrometer and a solid element for the soil. There are several different element formulations available in LS-DYNA and element choice relies heavily on the type of problem one is modeling. However, LS-DYNA is very capable of handling an extensive scope

of material behavior because it contains over one-hundred constitutive models and ten equations of state (Hallquist, 2006). The shell element for the penetrometer and solid element for the soil were found to be the best elements for this particular soil-structure interaction model. When the penetrometer was imported into LS-DYNA as a VDA file it was automatically read as a shell element by the program. Since the experimental penetrometer was hollow and all interactions occurred between the surface of the penetrometer and the soil, a shell element was acceptable for the penetrometer. Since the penetrometer was penetrating the soil model and interactions at the surface as well as the interior of the soil model were of concern, the soil was modeled as a solid element.

## **Procedure**

The steps to use LS-DYNA to simulate a sensor impacting the ground include: (1) modeling and meshing the 3D geometry; (2) selecting the proper material model; (3) specifying the proper contact and control conditions; (4) assigning any initial conditions; (5) checking the model setup for errors or omissions; (6) running the solver to perform the actual computations; (7) post-processing the results and comparing with predicted behavior; and (8) adjusting the geometry, material model, and contact conditions as necessary to successfully simulate the impact. There are two ways to input data into LS-DYNA. A keyword file can be created and almost all model data can be input in block form using typed keyword cards. However, this is a very time consuming process. Full keyword cards of the four models created during this research can be found in Appendix A. The more efficient and intuitive way to input data, which was used to model this problem, is to use LS-Prepost, a pre- and post-processor utilizing OpenGL graphics which provides viewing and editing tools for all LS-DYNA keyword cards

(Keyword, 2007). An example of an input card in LS-Prepost can be seen in Figure 3. An explanation of the terms used in this input card can be found in the glossary. Each parameter in the input card can be changed manually to reflect the values of the object being modeled.

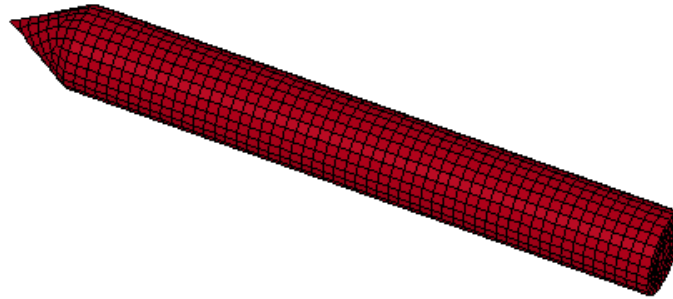
The screenshot shows the 'KEYWORD INPUT' window in LS-Prepost. The title bar is blue with the LS-Prepost logo and text. Below the title bar is a menu bar with 'NewID', 'RefBy', 'Add', 'Accept', 'Del/UnD', 'Default', and 'Done'. A checkbox 'Use \*PARAMETER' is checked. The main area is titled '\*MAT\_FHWA\_SOIL\_(TITLE) (1)'. Below this is a 'TITLE' field containing 'soil'. A table of parameters is displayed with 8 columns: MID, RO, NPLOT, SPGRAV, RHOWAT, VN, GAMMAR, and INTRMX. The table has 4 rows of data. Below the table is a 'COMMENT:' field. At the bottom, a status bar shows 'Total Card: 1', 'Smallest ID: 4', 'Largest ID: 4', and 'Total deleted card: 0'.

	MID	RO	NPLOT	SPGRAV	RHOWAT	VN	GAMMAR	INTRMX
1	4	1.340e-006	1	2.78000	1.000e-006	2.00000	0.00100	10
2	K	G	PHIMAX	AHYP	COH	ECCEN	AN	ET
	0.03000	0.01880	0.0	0.0	0.00700	1.00000	0.0	0.0
3	MCONT	PWD1	PWFSK	PWD2	PHIRES	DINT	VDFM	DAMLEV
	1.00000	4.63000	0.00300	0.0	0.0	0.10000	1.00000	0.0
4	EPSMAX							
	1.00000							

**Figure 3.** LS-Prepost input card specifying soil material parameters

For modeling the geometry of the penetrometer, SolidWorks, a commonly-used three-dimensional Computer Aided Design (CAD) software package, was used. It was used to model the penetrometer only because the simple geometry of a cylinder for the soil could be modeled in LS-DYNA. The penetrometer consisted of building a solid cylinder and connecting it to a solid cone for the penetrometer tip using the SolidWorks interface. It was decided the cone should not have a single point tip, since LS-DYNA does not handle singularities well in its calculations.

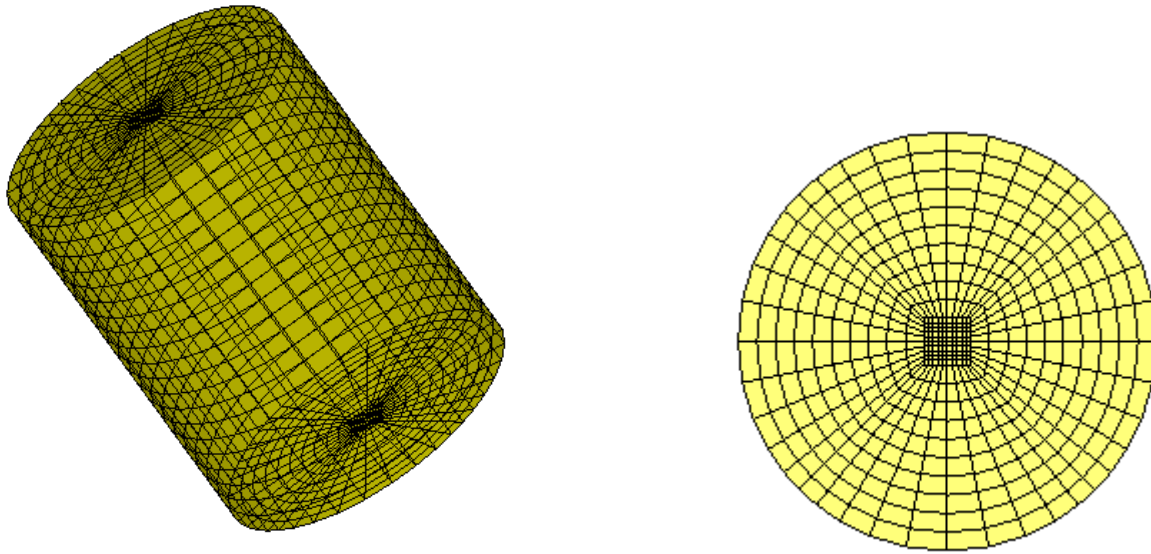
Instead, the cone tip of the penetrometer has a very small diameter circle as its front impact point. A model of the 3-inch penetrometer after being imported into LS-DYNA can be seen in Figure 4.



**Figure 4.** 3-inch cone penetrometer

The material models in LS-DYNA define the properties of all materials involved in the impact problem. LS-DYNA offers over 200 different model types. For the models, a basic penetrometer shape was inputted as a VDA file from SolidWorks and a cylinder with varying mesh was created to model the soil in LS-DYNA using the BlockM command. The soil's slave nodes which are capable of generating contact forces with the penetrometer's surface all exist in the central core region of the cylinder soil model. For this reason, the mesh outside the core region is considerably coarser and exists primarily to create a boundary condition that extends far enough away from the point of impact to not be affected. A model of the soil can be seen in Figure 5. Once the geometry for these shapes was inputted, selection of a proper material type was made and assigned to each. For the penetrometer, a basic material model 020-RIGID was used. This model will prevent the soil from penetrating the surface of the penetrometer. Parameters entered for this model included mass density, Young's modulus, and Poisson's ratio.

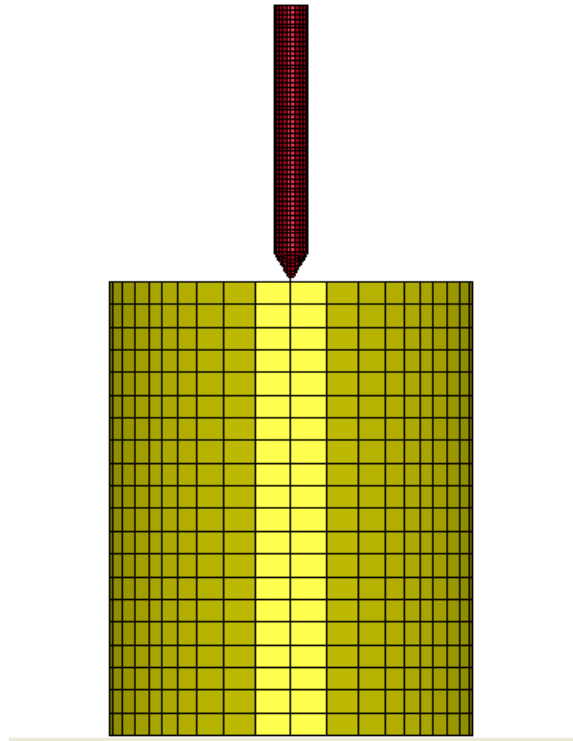
For the soil, material model 147-FHWA\_SOIL was used. This model was chosen from among several soil models because it includes excess pore water effects. To define this material, over twenty parameters are necessary including, mass density, specific gravity, bulk modulus, and shear modulus.



**Figure 5.** Side and top view of soil model with variable mesh

To successfully simulate impact, it is critical to properly specify the contact conditions between the object and the soil. For example, there are several options including single surface contact, one way surface to surface contact, eroding contact, and forming contact. To model the impact problem, the AUTOMATIC\_ONE\_WAY\_SURFACE\_TO\_SURFACE model was used to allow penetration of the penetrometer into the soil, but not to allow penetration of the penetrometer surface. One-way contact allows for compression loads to be transferred between the slave nodes (soil) and the master segments (penetrometer). Tangential loads are also transmitted if relative sliding occurs when contact friction is active. A Coulomb friction formulation is used with an exponential interpolation function to transition from static to

dynamic friction. This transition requires that a decay coefficient be defined and that the static friction coefficient be larger than the dynamic friction coefficient (*LS-DYNA® Keyword*, 2007). The penetrometer was also assigned an initial velocity. Figure 6 is a final view of the penetrometer and soil model before analysis.



**Figure 6.** Model of soil and penetrometer

Once the model was checked for errors and any errors were corrected, the next step was to run the solver to perform the actual computations. This involves saving the model as a keyword file and then starting the LS-DYNA analysis in the program manager window. If the solver ran successfully and there were no errors, a d3plot file was created and saved by the software. This file can then be used to animate the impact problem or study the forces involved in the impact.



## Mesh Density Effect

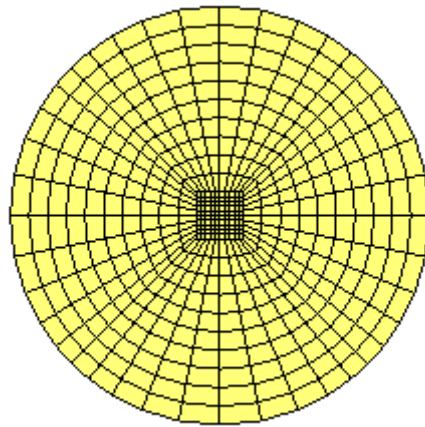
Since the model for the cone penetrometer was created using Solid Works and imported into LS-DYNA Prepost as a VDA file, the cone penetrometer could not be meshed until it was loaded in Prepost. Prepost automatically meshed the cone model with an acceptable mesh density for the program's capabilities. In LS Prepost, it is not possible to make the automated mesh density on an imported VDA file less dense. However, it is possible to decrease the mesh size (make the mesh more dense) using the element edit (EEdit) interface. Using the element edit interface, an element's mesh can be split into different shapes, thus making the mesh finer.

For the experimental cone models in LS-DYNA, the automated mesh size was used. The automated mesh size for the cone is a 4-node quadrilateral shell element of 5mm by 5mm. Finer meshes created using the EEdit interface were found to have little to no effect on the model results. Each time the mesh of the penetrometer was redefined, each mesh block was separated into equal fourths, thus increasing the density of the mesh by a power of four. Table 2 below summarizes the displacement results of the finer meshed models. A variation of maximum penetration of 6 mm in the cohesionless model is insignificant since the model is only at that penetration distance for a single second and then bounces back out. The experimenter is only concerned with the fact that the penetrometer should not penetrate more than 1.5 inches (38 mm) into the seabed.

**Table 2.** Displacement versus mesh density variation on cone

<b>Cone Model (3in)</b>	<b>Displacement (mm)</b>
cohesion	611.76
cohesion 4x finer	610.20
cohesion 16x finer	610.46
cohesionless	36.42
cohesionless 4x finer	29.63
cohesionless 16x finer	29.85
cohesionless 64x finer	30.36

The soil was modeled in LS-Prepost as a cylinder. The cylinder had a radius of 400 mm. However, a variable mesh was defined as shown in Figure 7. At the center of the cylinder is a central core which is a 90 mm square and 1000 mm long. The central core, where the contact occurs, consists of 9 mm squares, each of which is 50 mm long. All of the contact between the cone penetrometer and soil models is assumed to take place in this central core region of the soil model.



**Figure 7.** Model of soil.

Since the soil model was created as well as meshed in LS-Prepost using the BlockM interface, the creation of a range of mesh densities for the model was possible. The only limitation to how dense the central core region of the cylinder could be made was the computational power of the computer used to view, run, and analyze the model. The computer used in this experimentation was not able to analyze a file with a soil model with a central core region more than 1.4 times denser than the soil model in Figure 7. Regardless, during experimentation, it was found that a denser central core region did not affect the displacement results of the cone penetrometer. However, a less dense central core region did not provide enough contact points with the cone penetrometer's surface to provide accurate displacement

results. If the soil model was not dense enough to record contact with the cone's surface, the model produced a penetrometer that traveled completely through the 1000 mm long soil model without coming to rest. In conclusion, when modeling with LS-Prepost, mesh density should be increased until displacement results do not change. Table 3 summarizes the displacement results of the various mesh densities of the soil model.

**Table 3.** Displacement versus mesh density variation of soil

<b>Soil Model (using 3in cone model)</b>	<b>Displacement (mm)</b>
cohesion	611.76
cohesion 1.4x finer	611.76
cohesion 5x less fine	>1000
cohesion 2x less fine	>1000
cohesion 1.43x less fine	>1000
cohesion 1.11x less fine	>1000

### **FHWA Soil Material Model 147**

Soil Material Model 147 was chosen for this research because it is an advanced soil model which includes strain softening, kinematic hardening, strain rate effects, element deletion, and most importantly, excess pore water effects, which was necessary since the soil being modeled in this research was saturated (Hallquist, 2006). The material model was developed by Brett Lewis for Federal Highway Administration in 2004 to analyze the dynamic soil-structure interaction of foundation soils and roadside safety structures during collisions by motor vehicles. Due to lack of material property data, the model was developed based on a single set of data available for cohesionless soils (Lewis, 2004). Yet, the soil modeled in this research has cohesion. However, the model was applicable since, according to the Manual for Material Model 147, the model can be applied to any soil type as long as only “one surface is exposed to the elements” (Lewis, 2004).

Material models for soils incline towards complexity, with determination of input parameters as the most difficult task (Lewis, 2004). The researcher believes this complexity often has led to arbitrary tweaking of models to obtain simulation results that correspond to physical data. When input parameters are tweaked without regard for their accepted values, the model can no longer be used in parametric study. For parametric study, all values must be able to be obtained through physical testing and/or calculation. If a model is tweaked, parametric study becomes impossible. The LS-DYNA Theory Manual contains equations which can be used to determine the input parameters. However, not all parameter and default values of the model could be validated with testing by the developers or evaluators (Lewis, 2004). Suggested values for the parameters are available in the Evaluation of LS-DYNA Soil Material Model by Reid and Coon (2004) and in the results of extensive sensitivity and trade studies performed by Wayne Lee (2006) in his dissertation on Numerical Modeling of Blast-induced Liquefaction. A discussion of each of the model's parameters (found in Table 4) and their values follows. Actual values used in the model can be found in Table 8 and Table 9 on page 42.

**Table 4.** FHWA Soil Material Model 147 Parameters

Elastic and Soil Characteristics	<b>K</b> (bulk modulus or nonporous bulk modulus if pore-water effects are used, K) <b>G</b> (shear modulus, G) $\gamma_{sp}$ (specific gravity, Spgrav) $m_c$ (moisture content, 0.0-1.00, Mcont) $\rho$ (density of soil, RO)
Plasticity	$\phi$ (friction angle, radians, Phimax) <b>c</b> (cohesion, units of stress, Coh) <b>ahyp</b> (coefficient for modified Drucker-Prager surface, units of stress, Ahyp) <b>e</b> (eccentricity parameter for third invariant effects, Eccen)
Pore-Water Effects	<b>D<sub>1</sub></b> (parameter for pore-water effects on bulk modulus, Pwd1) <b>K<sub>sk</sub></b> (skeleton bulk modulus pore-water parameter, PwKsk) <b>D<sub>2</sub></b> (parameter for pore-water effects on effective pressure, Pwd2)
Strain Hardening	<b>A<sub>n</sub></b> (strain hardening, percent of phimax where nonlinear effects start, A <sub>n</sub> ) <b>E<sub>t</sub></b> (strain hardening, amount of nonlinear effects, E <sub>t</sub> )
Strain Softening	$\xi_0$ (volumetric strain at initial damage threshold, Dint) <b>G<sub>r</sub></b> (void formation energy, Vdfm) $\phi_{res}$ (minimum internal friction angle used for residual strength, radians, Phires)
Strength Enhancement Caused by Strain-rate Effects	$\gamma$ (viscoplasticity parameter, strain-rate-enhanced strength, Gammar) <b>n</b> (viscoplasticity parameter, strain-rate-enhanced strength, V <sub>n</sub> )
Element Deletion	<b>Damlev:</b> Level of damage that will cause element deletion (0.0-1.0) <b>Epsmax:</b> Maximum principal failure strain
Miscellaneous	<b>Nplot:</b> Element plotting variable to put into effective plastic strain variable <b>Rhowat:</b> Density of water in model units, used to determine air void strain (saturation) <b>Itermax:</b> Maximum number of iterations used in plasticity iterations

*Bulk Modulus, K*

The bulk modulus is “an elastic constant that reflects the resistance of the material to an overall gain or loss of volume under conditions of hydrostatic stress.” The evaluators recommended values of 23.00 to 36.80 MPa for silty sand and values of 46.00 to 115.00 MPa for sand and gravel (Reid and Coon, 2004). For this research, silty sand values were taken as the same values that would be found for saturated clay.

*Shear Modulus, G*

Shear modulus of elasticity “relates shear stress to shear strain.” The evaluators recommended values of 13.80 to 22.08 MPa for silty sand and 27.60 to 69.00 MPa for sand and gravel (Reid and Coon, 2004).

*Specific Gravity, Spgrav*

Specific gravity is the ratio of the soil solids in the model to the density of water. The evaluators recommended a value for silts and clay of 2.78 and a value of 2.65 for sand and gravels (Reid and Coon, 2004).

*Moisture Content, Mcont*

Soil shear strength is considerably reduced as moisture content increases. The moisture content of saturated clay is 100 percent and the evaluators recommended a value of 3.4 percent for sand (Reid and Coon, 2004).

### *Friction Angle, $\phi_{max}$*

$\phi_{max}$  “represents the effect that increasing effective normal stress has on the shear strength of the soil.” The evaluators recommended a baseline value of 63 degrees for cohesionless soils (Reid and Coon, 2004). Lee (2006), however, found that the value for the maximum allowable internal friction angle did not affect the results or the run time of the model significantly and recommended a baseline value of 35 degrees for cohesionless soils. An angle of zero degrees was used to model cohesive soil (clay) because an unconsolidated and undrained clay specimen has an undrained shear strength that is independent of pressure, thus, it has a horizontal line for its failure envelope (Das, 2005).

### *Cohesion, $Coh$*

Cohesion, or shear strength, can be found by direct shear testing. The developer of material model 147 recommended a value of 6.2e-6 GPa for cohesionless soil (Reid and Coon, 2004). Lee (2006) found that results do not vary significantly due to the value of cohesion if the value is small. Lee also found that a high cohesion value will lead to excessive element distortion and a near-zero value will lead to excessive run time. Therefore, Lee recommended a cohesion value of 2 psi for a clay layer.

### *Coefficient for Modified Drucker-Prager Surface, $A_{hyp}$*

A “reasonable approximation” of  $A_{hyp}$  can be found by treating  $A_{hyp}$  as a function of the angle of internal friction and cohesion, as seen in equation 6 (Reid and Coon, 2004).

$$A_{hyp} = \frac{c}{20} \cot(\phi) \quad (6)$$

*Eccentricity Parameter for Third Invariant Effects, Eccen*

The value specified for Eccen generalizes the shape of the yield surface. A circular cone surface is formed when Eccen is set to 1.00. A triangular surface is formed when Eccen is set to 0.55.

The developer of the model recommended a value of 0.70 for Eccen because it forms a smooth yield surface without over-smoothing the corners of the yield surface. However, the evaluators of the model “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining recommended values for Eccen” (Reid and Coon, 2004).

*Parameter for Pore-water Effects on Bulk Modulus, Pwd1*

Pwd1 is “a constant relating the stiffness of the soil material before the air voids are collapsed.”

As the value of Pwd1 is increased, the stiffness of the response of the soil decreases (Reid and Coon, 2004). The developer recommended values for Pwd1 between 0.0 and 10.0 (Lewis, 2004). In fully saturated soil, Lee (2006) estimated the parameter to be  $3.19\text{E-}05$  per psi.

*Skeleton Bulk Modulus Pore-water Parameter, Pwsk*

The skeleton bulk modulus “determines the amount of effect that pore-water pressure has on the bulk modulus.” To eliminate pore-water effects, this parameter can be set to zero. However, the evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining specific recommended values” (Reid and Coon, 2004). Through trade study, Lee (2006) recommended a value between 5% and 20% of the corresponding value for bulk modulus,  $K$ , to achieve “maximum stability, reasonable run time, and reasonable amount of pore-water pressure build-up.”



*Parameter for Pore-water Effects on Effective Pressure, Pwd2*

Pwd2 is one of the factors used to calculate a value for the pore-water pressure. As pore water pressure increases to excess, the shear strength of the soil is reduced. However, the evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining specific recommended values” (Reid and Coon, 2004). In fully saturated soil, Lee (2006) showed that the parameter has no effect on pore water pressure and should therefore be input as zero.

*Strain Hardening,  $A_n$  and  $E_t$*

$E_t$  is the “amount of nonlinear strain hardening effects desired” and it “affects the rate at which nonlinear hardening occurs.”  $A_n$  is “the percentage of  $\Phi_{max}$  where nonlinear behavior begins.” The evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining the recommended values for  $A_n$  and  $E_t$ ” (Reid and Coon, 2004). Through trade studies, Lee (2006) found that “pore pressure results vary significantly as value of  $E_t$  changes.” The shortest run time occurred when  $E_t$  equaled zero, meaning the friction angle did not increase with respect to strains. Different values for  $A_n$  were found not to have a dramatic effect on pore pressure (Lee, 2006).

*Maximum Number of Iterations Used in Plasticity Iterations, Intrmx*

Intrmx “controls the number of iterations for the plasticity routine” (Reid and Coon, 2004). The developer recommended a value of 10 (Lewis, 2004). Through trade study, Lee (2006) recommended a value between 10 and 20. At a value of 20 or greater, Lee found that more iterations did not improve the accuracy of the model and increased the run time.

### *Minimum Internal Friction Angle Used for Residual Strength, $\Phi_{res}$*

$\Phi_{res}$  is “the angle, in radians, of the slope of the failure envelope” and it is material-dependent (Reid and Coon, 2004). The developer recommended a value between 0 and .001 radians for cohesionless soils (Lewis, 2004). Lee (2006) found that at an angle above 15 degrees results appear to stabilize and recommended a value of 30 degrees for cohesionless soils. However,  $\Phi_{res}$  is a product of the tangent of  $\Phi_{max}$ . Therefore, in an undrained cohesive specimen (clay) the value of  $\Phi_{res}$  is zero because  $\Phi_{max}$  is zero.

### *Viscoplasticity Parameters, Strain-rate-enhanced Strength, $\Gamma$ and $V_n$*

According to the evaluators, if  $\Gamma$  is set to 0.0 strain-rate-enhanced strength effects are eliminated, regardless of the value of  $V_n$ . The evaluators found that “additional work must be performed to determine the appropriate values for these strain-rate parameters” (Reid and Coon, 2004). Lee (2006) found that as  $\Gamma$  decreases pore pressure decreases and run time increases. Lee also found that as  $V_n$  decreases both pore pressure and run time increase. Lee performed trade studies and found “stable and consistent trends” for  $\Gamma$  values between  $1.0E-04$  and  $1.0E+03$ . Lee suggested that appropriate values are subjective depending on pore-pressure and run time magnitudes (Lee, 2006).

### *Volumetric Strain at Initial Damage Threshold, $D_{int}$*

$D_{int}$  is the “volumetric strain at peak pressure,” which is the same as “the point where damage effects begin to occur.” The evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining the recommended values” (Reid and Coon, 2004). A trade study performed by Lee (2006) found that as  $D_{int}$  increased to 0.1, run time decreased. Other aspects of the model,

including stability, convergence, and results were not affected by several orders of magnitude change in Dint. Lee stated, “value is subjective based on personal preference when insufficient data are available to specify exact value.”

#### *Void Formation Energy, Vdfm*

Mesh sensitivity in finite element models produces erroneous results. A softening parameter calculated using Vdfm is used to “reduce the effects of strain softening on mesh sensitivity.”

However, the evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining the recommended [value]” (Reid and Coon, 2004). Trade studies by Lee (2006) found that when the Vdfm value equals zero “oscillatory and divergence behaviors are observed.” Like Dint, Lee stated the value is “subjective when no data is available.”

#### *Level of Damage that Will Cause Element Deletion, Damlev*

Damlev was created to delete elements during an analysis because as damage to a model increases there is a high likelihood that element distortion will increase. However, the evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining the recommended [value]” (Reid and Coon, 2004). Lee (2006) recommended a value of zero (no deletion) because he found that when elements are deleted from a model a detrimental shock wave is produced.

#### *Maximum Principal Failure Strain, Epsmax*

Epsmax is the “maximum principal failure strain at which the element is deleted.” The evaluators “are unaware of any physical testing or theoretical means for determining the

recommended values” (Reid and Coon, 2006). However, if Damlev equals zero, the value of Epsmax is ignored during analysis (Lee, 2006).

#### *Element Plotting Variable, Nplot*

Nplot offers several plotting options depending on which type of information concerning the soil the modeler would like plotted. Six options are given when modeling.

#### **Parametric Effects**

Certain parameters of Material Model 147 were varied to determine their effect on the overall output of the model. Each parameter was varied in increments of five percent, up to twenty-five percent, in both the negative and positive directions. The parameters that were evaluated were the bulk modulus, shear modulus, friction angle, cohesion, and the number of iterations, Itermax. For this parameter evaluation, a 3-inch model was used which had a penetrometer which had a low enough mass so that the penetrometer would come to complete rest in the soil. It was found that by varying the shear modulus, friction angle, and number of iterations the output of the three inch cohesive model was not affected as can be seen in Table 5.

**Table 5.** Effect of change in parameters G, Coh, Itermax on model displacement

% Change	Shear Modulus, G	Model Displacement, mm	Cohesion, Coh	Model Displacement, mm	Number of Iterations, Itermax	Model Displacement, mm
-25	0.01035	611.95	0.00525	611.76		
-20	0.01104	612.21	0.00560	611.76	8	611.76
-15	0.01173	611.95	0.00595	611.76		
-10	0.01242	611.83	0.00630	611.76	9	611.76
-5	0.01311	611.95	0.00665	611.76		
0	0.01380	611.76	0.00700	611.76	10	611.76
5	0.01449	611.56	0.00735	611.76		
10	0.01518	611.71	0.00770	611.76	11	611.76
15	0.01587	611.69	0.00805	611.76		
20	0.01656	611.62	0.00840	611.76	12	611.76
25	0.01725	611.57	0.00875	611.76		

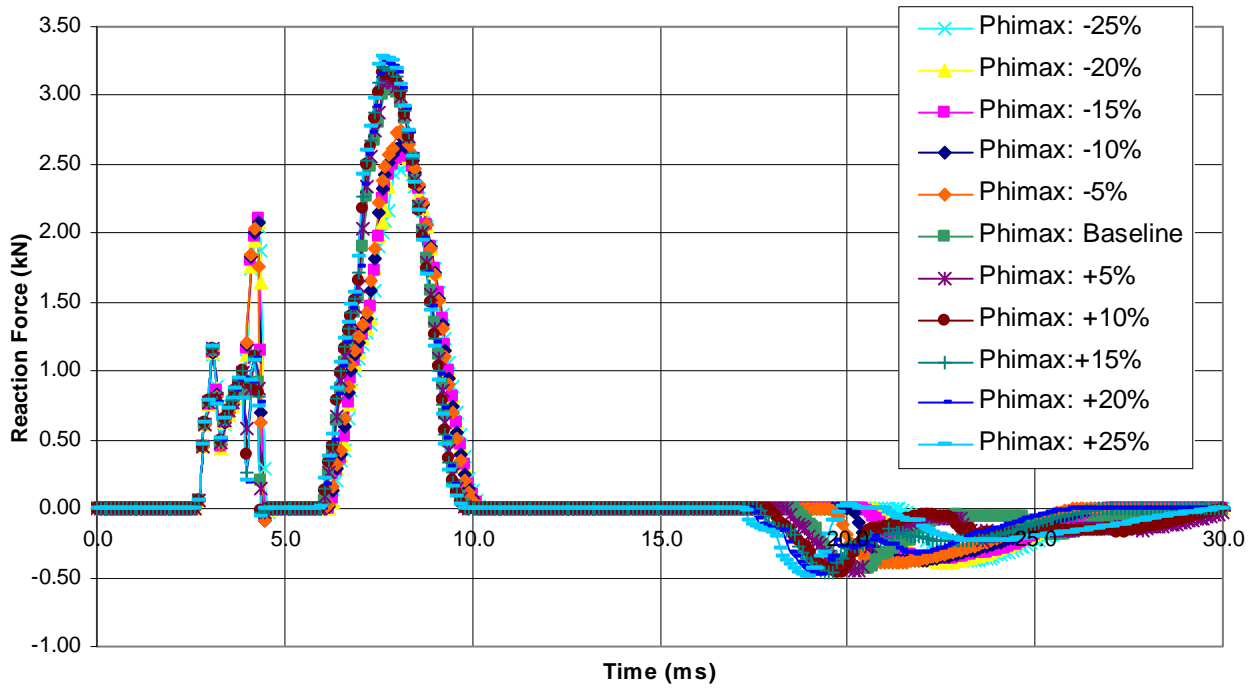
However, it was expected that by varying cohesion the model output would be affected. To apply the LS-DYNA models of this study to the depth of penetration of varying diameter penetrometers in varying sediment types, the cohesion parameter must be changeable based on the sediment type and different penetration depths should result. However, this result did not occur. Even when the cohesion parameter was varied by 2000 percent, there was no effect on the model's displacement. This result may have occurred because Material Model 147 was created for the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 350 roadside safety hardware testing, but no material property data was available during the model's development. Instead, the model was "developed based on the one set of data available and the general behavior of cohesionless soils (Lewis, 2004). Since the cohesion parameter is zero or close to it in cohesionless soils, the cohesion parameter may not have been fully developed to handle cohesive soil values. If Material Model 147 is to be used in future research of cohesive soils, the cohesion parameter needs to be improved. However, APTEK Inc., the company which maintains Material Model 147, has no contract to further develop the material model (Murray, 2008).

The friction angle,  $\Phi_{max}$ , was found also to have no effect on the output of the 3-inch cohesionless model. The friction angle was varied in the cohesionless model instead of the cohesive model because the friction angle is zero in saturated cohesive soils. Also, as  $\Phi_{max}$  was varied it was necessary to vary the  $A_{hyp}$  parameter as well, since the two values are related by Equation 6. The results of the friction angle variation can be found in Table 6.

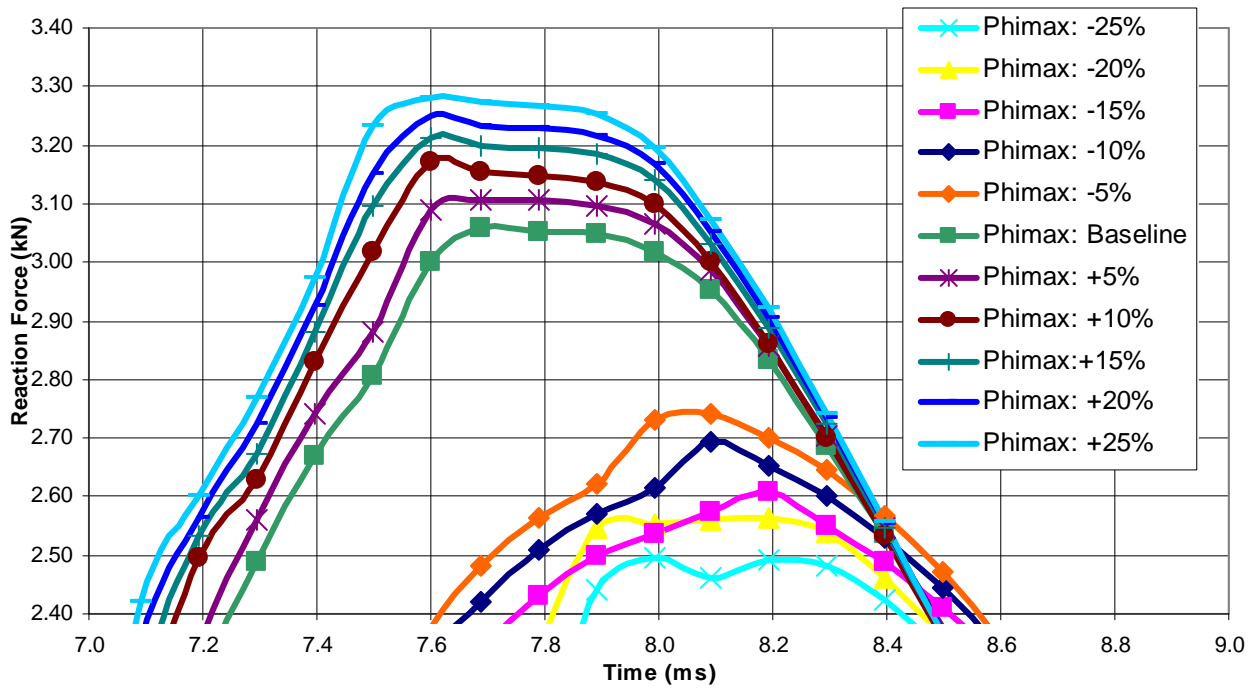
**Table 6.** Effect of change in  $\Phi_{max}$  on model displacement

% Change	Friction Angle, $\Phi_{max}$	$A_{hyp}$	Model Displacement, mm
-25	0.825	2.864E-07	36.57
-20	0.880	2.563E-07	36.52
-15	0.935	2.288E-07	36.49
-10	0.990	2.035E-07	36.47
-5	1.045	1.799E-07	36.44
0	1.100	1.000E-07	36.42
5	1.155	1.369E-07	36.55
10	1.210	1.170E-07	36.41
15	1.265	9.787E-08	36.56
20	1.320	7.942E-08	36.56
25	1.375	6.148E-08	36.54

The changes in the cohesion and  $\Phi_{max}$  parameters were then compared to the reaction force output of the model to determine if a change in either parameter affected the model in any way. Again, the cohesion parameter was found to have no effect on the reaction force output of the model. Therefore, Material Model 147 should not be used to model problems involving cohesive sediment. However, the  $\Phi_{max}$  parameter did have an effect on the reaction force output of the model as can be seen in Figure 8 and Figure 9. As expected, increases in the value of  $\Phi_{max}$  caused the maximum reaction force to increase as well. Therefore, Material Model 147 can be used to model cohesionless sediments.



**Figure 8.** Reaction force vs. time for variations in  $Ph_{max}$



**Figure 9.** Reaction force vs. time for variations in  $Ph_{max}$  from 7 ms to 9 ms

The only parameter that was found to have any effect on the displacement output of the 3-inch cohesive model was the bulk modulus,  $K$ . As the bulk modulus was decreased by fifteen percent and greater, the model's displacement exceeded the 1000 mm long soil model. The results of this experimentation, as shown in Table 7, illustrate that when using the model in future research special attention should be given to the determination of the value of the bulk modulus, so as not to produce excess penetration. If a value has to be estimated for the bulk modulus, it should be overestimated rather than underestimated.

**Table 7.** Effect of change in Bulk Modulus on model displacement

% Change	Bulk Modulus, $K$	Model Displacement, mm
-25	0.01725	>1000
-20	0.01840	>1000
-15	0.01955	>1000
-10	0.02070	612.02
-5	0.02185	611.63
0	0.02300	611.76
5	0.02415	611.73
10	0.02530	611.50
15	0.02645	611.54
20	0.02760	611.60
25	0.02875	611.52

## Results and Discussion

A model to simulate the impact of a penetrometer into the seafloor was created. An example of a complete input deck can be found in Appendix A. When modeling in LS-DYNA it is very important to maintain consistent units. The units used for this research were: kg, mm, ms, KN, GPa, and KN-mm. After each new model, the keyword file was checked for errors and saved. The solver was then used to run an LS-DYNA analysis of the file. If the analysis ran successfully without any errors, a d3plot file was created. By analyzing the data in the d3plot file, penetration depth could be found.



The soil was first modeled as a cube with non-varying sized mesh. As mentioned before, the soil's slave nodes which are capable of generating contact forces with the penetrometer's surface all exist in the central core region of the soil model. For this reason, it was decided to make the mesh in the central region of the soil model coarser. To do this using LS-DYNA, the soil model had to be changed to a cylinder instead of a cube. It is not possible using the BlockM command to make a cube with varying mesh, but it is possible to make a cylinder with varying mesh. The radius of the cylinder was increased until no effects from penetration could be seen on the outer boundary of the cylinder. Originally, the soil model was not as long as the penetrometer because full depth penetration was not of concern. However, the length of the soil model had to be increased once the penetrometer was exiting the bottom of the soil model before it came to rest.

The contact type first used was AUTOMATIC\_SINGLE\_SURFACE. This contact type is one of the most widely used options in LS-DYNA and is very useful in crash analysis. However, in this contact option no master surface is defined (*LS-DYNA<sup>®</sup> Keyword*, 2007). As previously mentioned, eventually the contact type AUTOMATIC\_ONE\_WAY\_SURFACE\_TO\_SURFACE was used to allow penetration of the penetrometer into the soil, but to prevent penetration of the penetrometer surface. One-way contact also allows for compression loads to be transferred between the slave nodes (soil) and the master segments (penetrometer) (*LS-DYNA<sup>®</sup> Keyword*, 2007).

For CONTROL options in LS-Prepost, one can specify the TIMESTEP. One of the parameter inputs for TIMESTEP is TSSFAC, the scale factor for the computed time step. Originally, TSSFAC was set to 0.9, the parameter's default value. After several models were

analyzed, it was decided to change TSSFAC from 0.9 to 0.5 to allow for more calculation time steps to take place. More calculation time steps should yield more accurate results.

One continual issue that was dealt with throughout the research was massing the penetrometer. The 3-inch penetrometer had a mass of 9.525 kg. In the material input, 020-RIGID, for the penetrometer there is a parameter for the density of the penetrometer material. Since the majority of the penetrometer, its body, was made of aluminum, the density of aluminum was originally used for the density of the rigid material. However, the penetrometer was modeled as a shell in LS-DYNA and for simplicity, was missing its fins. Therefore, LS-DYNA was probably not receiving an accurate value of the penetrometer's mass. However, it is possible to assign an element mass in LS-Prepost using ELEMENT\_MASS\_PART. With this option, a translational mass could be defined which was then distributed to the nodes of the element. Several models were attempted using this option, but the penetrometer was found to be greatly over massed because the translational mass was being added onto the density that already existed for the penetrometer and a density of zero could not be entered for the penetrometer material.

Trials were analyzed using a very small density, or almost zero density, but were unsuccessful. Another option was looking up exactly what value of mass for the penetrometer the program was using in its calculations. This option was found to be the best way to obtain an accurate mass for the penetrometer. After a model was run, the d3hsp output file could be analyzed to obtain the total mass of the penetrometer used in the program's calculations. The penetrometer's mass could be found under "mass properties of rigid body material." If the value of mass was too low, the density of the material for the penetrometer was increased until an accurate mass was obtained in the d3hsp output file. If the value of mass was too high, the

density of the material for the penetrometer was decreased until an accurate mass was obtained in the d3hsp output file.

During early modeling attempts, it was discovered that when the d3plot file was animated the penetrometer did not penetrate the soil. The LS-DYNA input deck for the simulation being modeled in this experiment has 19 input cards. An error in any of the 19 input cards could have been causing the penetrometer to not penetrate the soil. Since the material model for the soil (FHWA Soil Material Model 147) is the most complex, it was the first input card to be checked to see if it was causing the error. To check the material model of the soil, Material Model 147 was replaced with Material Model 5, a much simpler model used for modeling soil and foam. When the solver was run again, the penetrometer penetrated the soil. Thus, the error causing the penetrometer to not penetrate the soil existed in the input parameters to Material Model 147.

Over 50 different models were analyzed using varying inputs for Material Model 147 before the error was discovered. After the source of the error was discovered, at least 53 different input cards for Material Model 147 were analyzed, which each involved inputting the new parameters into LS-DYNA and running the finite element solver. The most common errors were non-penetration of the soil and penetrometers which had a slight decrease in their velocities, but then continued on through the model at that constant velocity (too much penetration).

Changes that were made to correct errors in the model included changing the soil parameters, especially the values where no physical testing or theoretical means exist for determining the parameter's value, and accurately modeling the mass of the penetrometer. The final inputs for Soil Material Model 147 for the cohesive and cohesionless soils used in the modeling of this research can be seen in Table 8 and Table 9 respectively. For definitions of the

variables in the tables refer back to their definitions in Table 4. Complete keyword input cards for all models can be found in Appendix A.

**Table 8.** Cohesive soil inputs

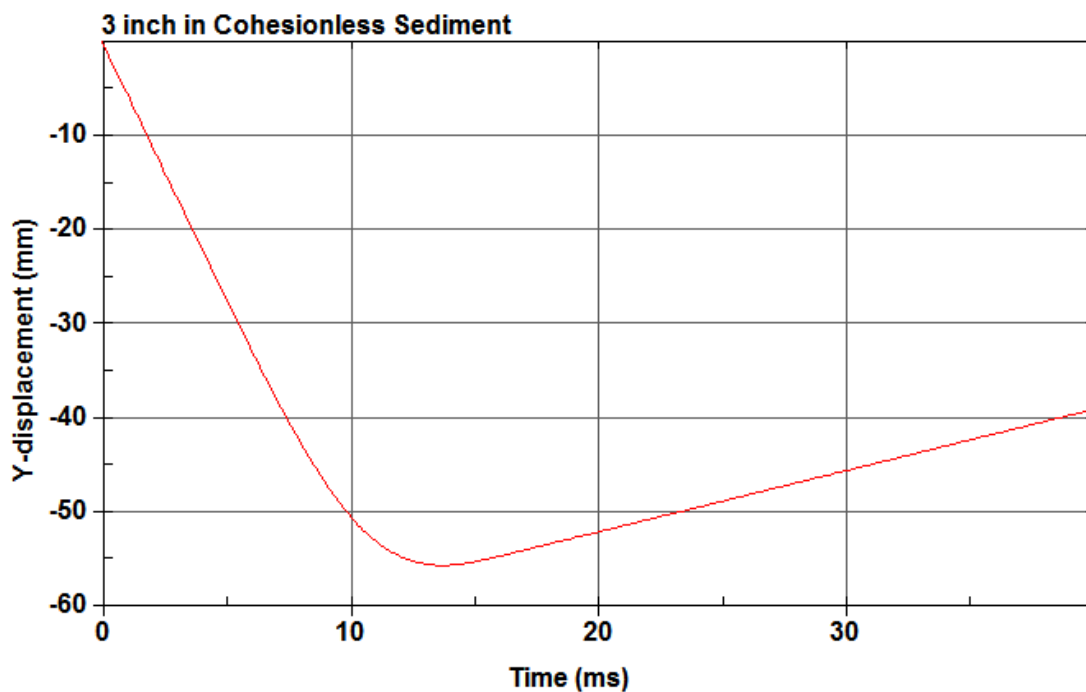
Variable	MID	RO	Nplot	Spgrav	Rhowat	V <sub>n</sub>	Gammar	Itermax
Input	4	1.87e-6	1	2.78	1.0e-6	2.0	0.001	10
Default	None	None	1	None	1.0	0.0	0.0	1
Variable	K	G	Phimax	Ahyp	Coh	Eccen	A <sub>n</sub>	E <sub>t</sub>
Input	0.065	0.106	0.0	0.0	0.007	1.0	0.0	0.0
Default	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Variable	Mcont	Pwd1	PwKsk	Pwd2	Phires	Dint	Vdfm	Damlev
Input	1.0	4.63	0.003	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.0
Default	None	None	None	None	0.0	None	None	None
Variable	Epsmax							
Input	1.0							
Default	None							

**Table 9.** Cohesionless soil inputs

Variable	MID	RO	Nplot	Spgrav	Rhowat	V <sub>n</sub>	Gammar	Itermax
Input	4	2.082e-6	1	2.65	1.0e-6	2.0	0.001	10
Default	None	None	1	None	1.0	0.0	0.0	1
Variable	K	G	Phimax	Ahyp	Coh	Eccen	A <sub>n</sub>	E <sub>t</sub>
Input	0.115	0.069	0.61	4.44e-7	6.2e-6	1.0	0.0	0.0
Default	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Variable	Mcont	Pwd1	PwKsk	Pwd2	Phires	Dint	Vdfm	Damlev
Input	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.001	0.1	1.0	0.0
Default	None	None	None	None	0.0	None	None	None
Variable	Epsmax							
Input	1.0							
Default	None							

The axis of travel for the penetrometer in all models was the y axis. Figure 10 shows the displacement results for the model created for the 3-inch penetrometer in cohesionless soil (sand). With this model, the penetrometer penetrates a maximum of 55.74 mm (2.19 in) into the soil. After thirteen milliseconds, the penetrometer does not come to rest, but bounces back out of

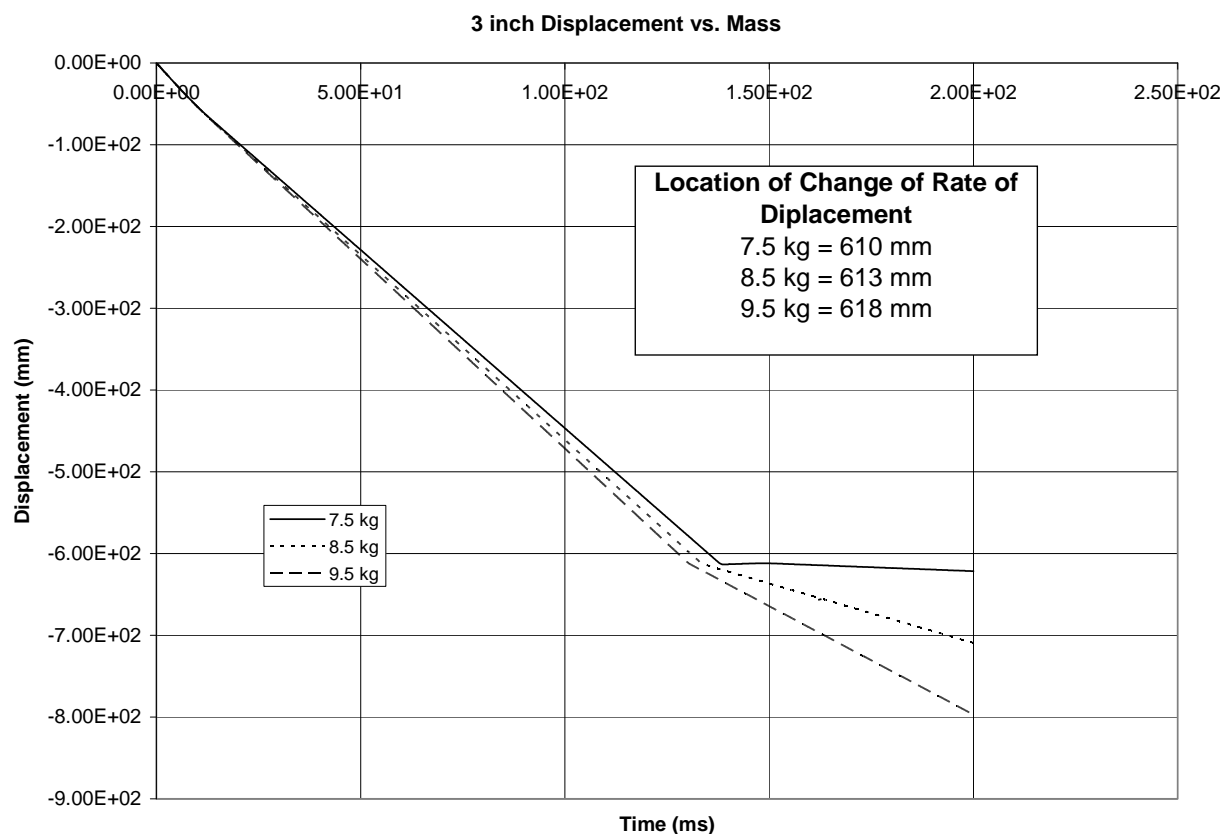
the soil, yielding a final penetration of zero millimeters. This behavior is expected because cohesionless soils act as elastic materials, therefore, when a soil object impacts an elastic material it bounces back. The fact that the model shows this behavior in the cohesionless model and not in the cohesive model proves the model is accurately analyzing the input parameters. Results were verified through experimentation on the YP, where no penetration was observed in cohesionless soil for the 3-inch penetrometer.



**Figure 10.** Penetration depth of 3-inch penetrometer in cohesionless soil for LS-DYNA model

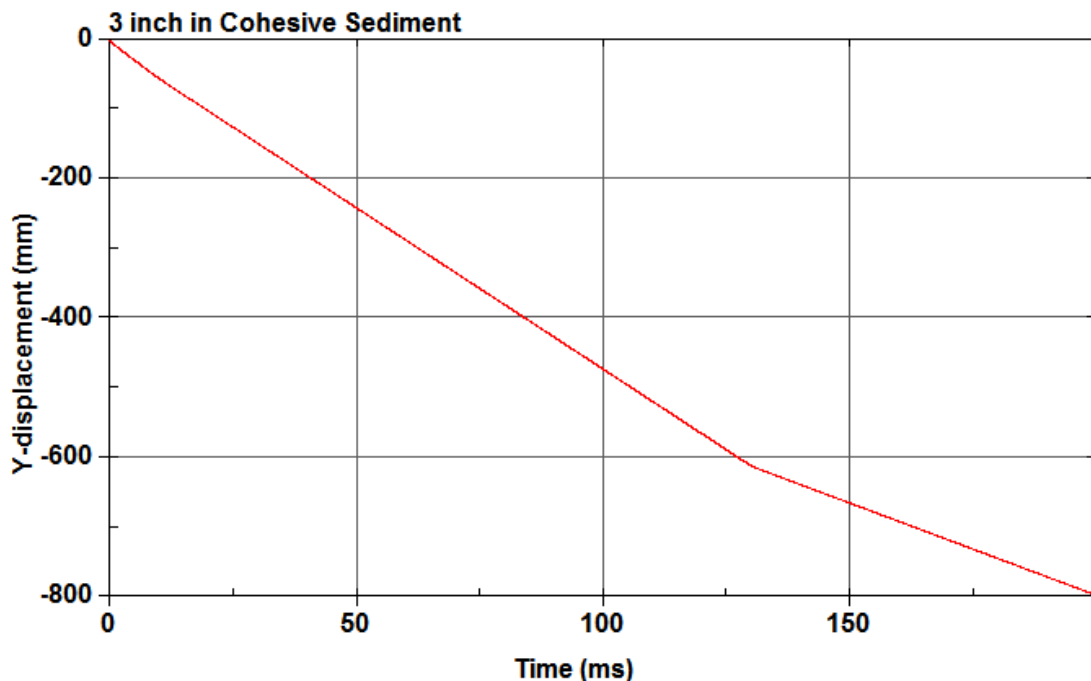
For unknown reasons, penetration in cohesive sediment could not be accurately modeled in LS-DYNA. However, there are a few plausible reasons. According to the *Manual for LS-DYNA Soil Material Model 147*, Material Model 147 was developed “based on one set of data available and the general behavior of cohesionless soils,” meaning it was not developed for cohesive soils (2004). Also, according to the *Evaluation of LS-DYNA Soil Material Model 147*, “the current implementation of the soil material model appears to be applicable for only small

displacement problems (on the order of 25 to 50 mm)” (2004). Through experimentation with the model, a third reason for the model’s failure was observed. The model did not fail when the penetrometer’s mass was low, 7.5 kg or less, as seen in Figure 11. It is possible Material Model 147 was not developed to handle impact from larger masses. After 50 mm of displacement, the soil material model has been observed to fail in tests performed by the model’s evaluators, but model results in this research seem to suggest that even when the 3-inch model failed (the penetrometer did not come to rest), the model could still yield accurate displacement results for the 3-inch penetrometer in cohesive sediments. However, further experimental drops would need to be conducted on the YP to verify the model’s displacement values as accurate.

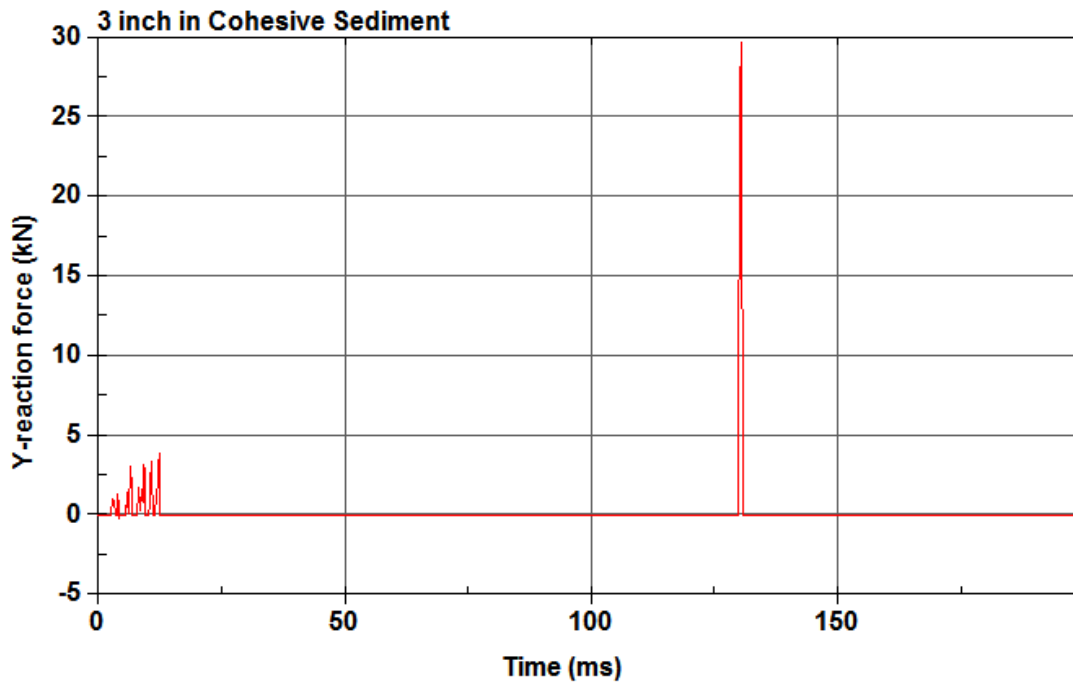


**Figure 11.** Displacement values based on mass for the 3-inch penetrometer in LS-DYNA

An accurate displacement value for the 3-inch penetrometer could be found by observing where the change in rate of displacement occurred, as seen in Figure 12. The location also corresponds with the maximum reaction force experienced by the 3-inch penetrometer, as seen in Figure 13. Figure 12 shows the displacement results for the model created for the 3-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil (clay). With this model, the penetrometer penetrates 618 mm (24.33 in) into the soil before the rate of change in displacement varies. Through the experimentation on the YP, an average of 23.64 inches of penetration is expected in cohesive soil for the 3-inch penetrometer. The percent error between the experimental value and the model's value for penetration for clay is only 2.92%. Both models for the 3-inch penetrometer were within the original goal of at least 15% accuracy between experimentation data and the computer-aided numerical analysis.



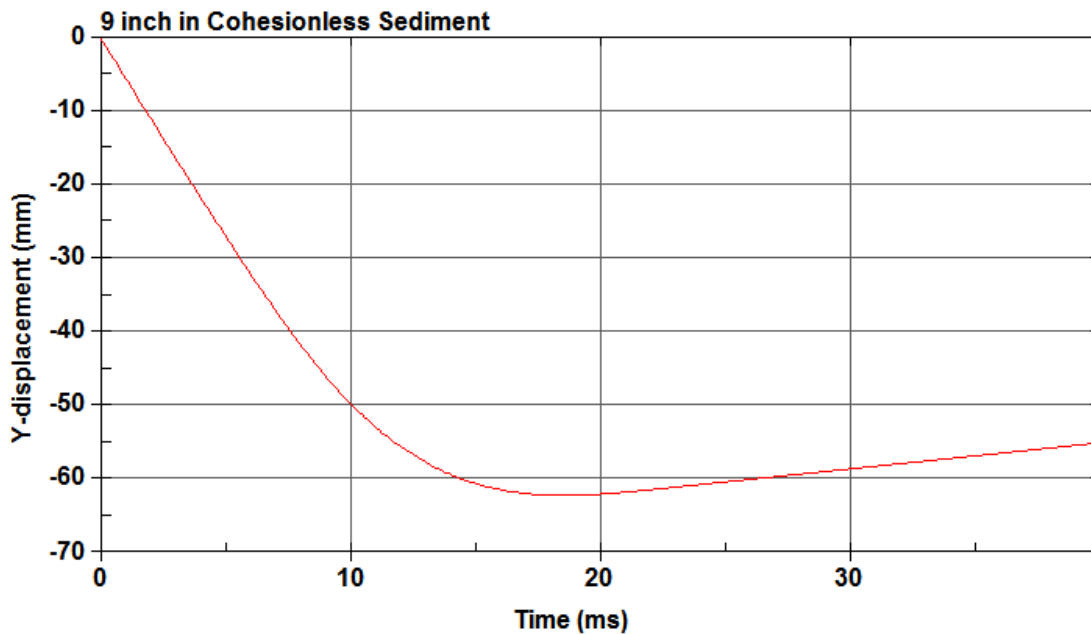
**Figure 12.** Penetration depth of 3-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil for LS-DYNA model



**Figure 13.** Reaction force for 3-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil for LS-DYNA model

Figure 14 shows the displacement results for the model created for the 9-inch penetrometer in cohesionless soil (sand). With this model, the penetrometer penetrates a maximum of 62.20 mm (2.45 in) into the soil. After eighteen milliseconds, the penetrometer does not come to rest, but bounces back out of the soil, yielding a final penetration of zero millimeters. The fact that the model shows higher maximum penetration in the 9-inch model versus the 3-inch model proves again that the model is accurately analyzing the input parameters. Results were verified through experimentation on the YP, where no penetration was observed in cohesionless soil for the 9-inch penetrometer.





**Figure 14.** Penetration depth of 9-inch penetrometer in cohesionless soil for LS-DYNA model

An accurate model for the 9-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil could not be created.

The most likely reason, being that an accurate displacement for the three inch in cohesive was able to be obtained, is that the larger diameter and increased weight of the 9-inch penetrometer caused much more displacement of the soil model in a shorter period of time which caused the model to fail. Unlike the 3-inch model, the penetrometer's displacement in the 9-inch model could not be found by observing where the change in rate of displacement occurred because no change in the rate of displacement occurred in the 9-inch cohesive model, as seen in Figure 15. There also was no reaction force present in the soil after the first thirty milliseconds like there was in the 3-inch cohesive model, as seen in Figure 16. Figure 15 shows the displacement results for the model created for the 9-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil (clay). With this model, the penetrometer penetrates over 1000 mm (39.37 in) into the soil with no variations in the rate of change in displacement. Through experimentation on the YP, an average of 30.36 inches of penetration was expected for the 9-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil. Both models for

cohesive sediment were unsuccessful at accurately modeling the penetrometer's impact, but the cohesionless models were both within the original goal of at least 15% accuracy between experimentation data and the computer-aided numerical analysis.

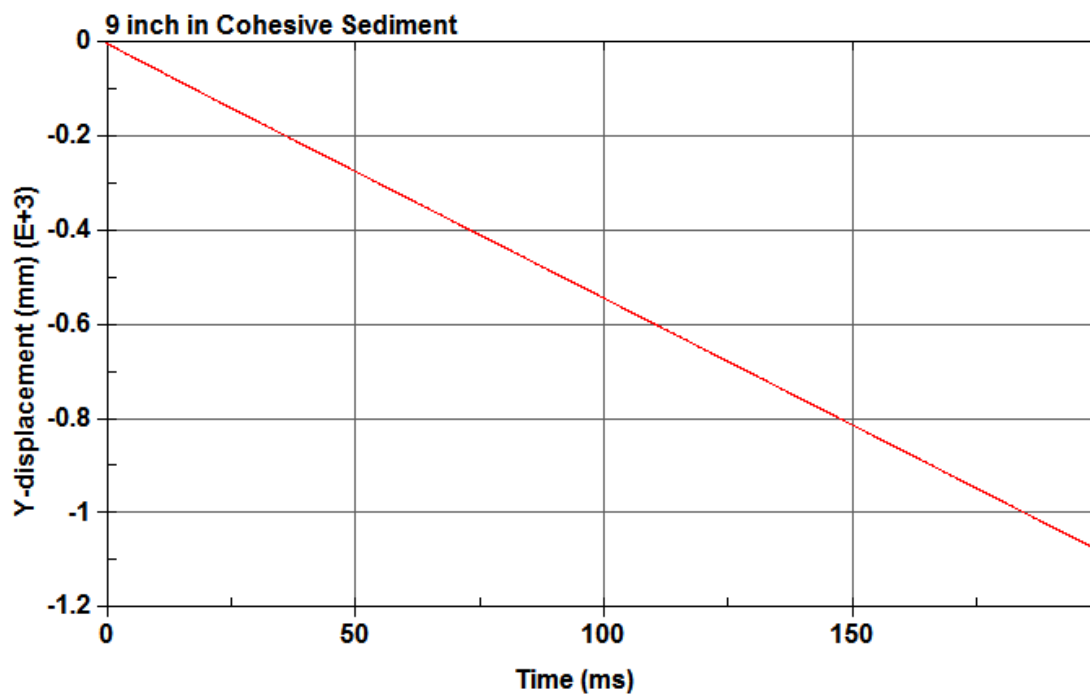


Figure 15. Penetration depth of 9-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil for LS-DYNA model

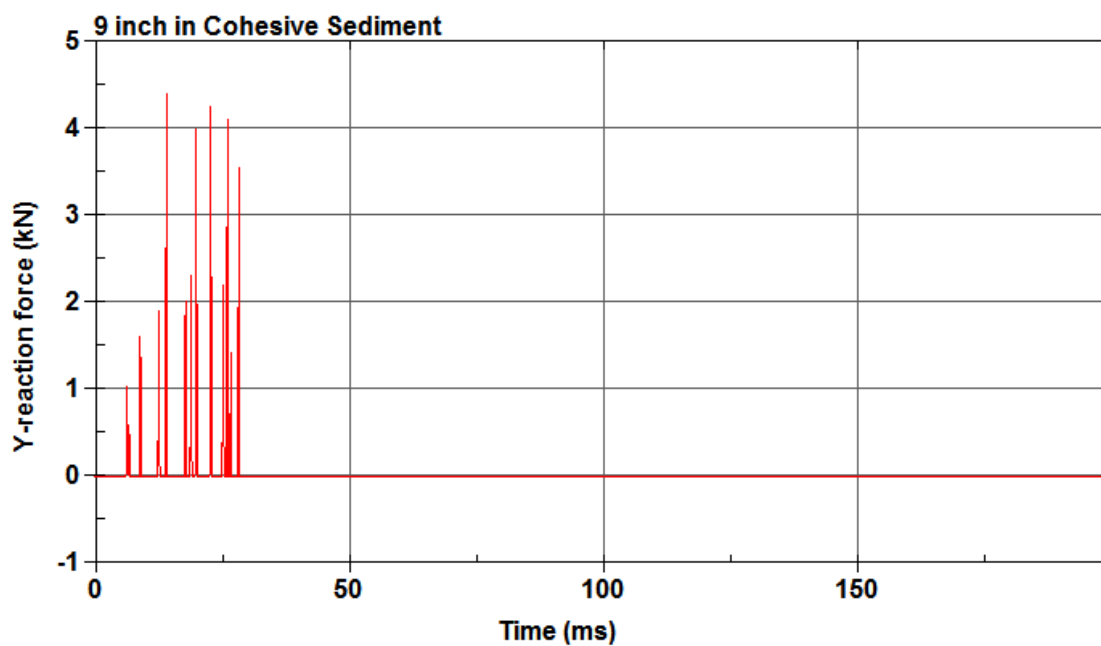


Figure 16. Reaction force for 9-inch penetrometer in cohesive soil for LS-DYNA model

### ***Experimental Approach***

Penetrometers with diameters ranging from 3-inches to 9-inches were constructed for another Navy test, and were made available by the government for this project. The tube and fins of the penetrometers were fabricated from 6061 aluminum, with a 316 stainless steel nose cone which has a 60 degree angle. Pictures of the penetrometers used in this experiment can be seen in Figure 17. It was unnecessary to attach fins to the 9-inch penetrometer because the objects large weight (146.1 lbs) acted as the penetrometer's sole stabilization.



**Figure 17.** 3 and 9-inch diameter experimental penetrometers

The original plan was to also include a 6-inch and 12-inch penetrometers, but the size and weight of the 12-inch would have made it very difficult to handle using the available equipment for this research. In the testing area, it was also difficult to obtain depths great enough to allow the 12-inch to penetrate the seabed. The 6-inch penetrometer was never fabricated.

Each penetrometer was fitted with an accelerometer and included a serial output. Using the USNA Oceanography Research Vessel (YP-686), these penetrometers were repeatedly

dropped off the stern of the YP and allowed to free fall to the seabed. A slackened lifting line and a wireless, external accelerometer remained attached to the penetrometer during each drop for data acquisition. Figure 18 shows the aft deck of the YP with the integral U-frame and the 3-inch penetrometer ready for deployment.



**Figure 18.** Stern deck view of Oceanography YP, showing U-frame and 3-inch penetrometer

The penetrometer was released from the U-frame by pulling a quick release, as seen in Figure 19. After the penetrometer came to rest, the YP winch pulled the lifting line taut and recovered the penetrometer. Figure 20 shows a recovered 3-inch penetrometer with mud up to the top of the fins after full penetration. Figure 22 shows a recovered 9-inch penetrometer with mud showing about 30 inches of penetration. The attached accelerometer started recording motion output before release and continually throughout the drop. The point where the penetrometer impacted the seabed was evident as a spike in the acceleration data. By integrating

the acceleration data twice, the distance the penetrometer traveled during its fall (and thus total penetration depth) was obtained.



**Figure 19.** Launch of 3-inch penetrometer



**Figure 21.** Recovery of 3-inch penetrometer



**Figure 22.** Recovery of 9-inch penetrometer

Experiments were conducted at three sites in the Chesapeake Bay with differing sediment parameters (sand and clay). Due to issues with water depth and where the YP was able to go, drops were made in only sand and clay. A core sample could not be taken of the sand because it was so hard that the corer was not able to penetrate and obtain a sample. Testing location was decided upon before departure, but often changed in transit. For example, one test site was unusable because it was covered in crab pots. The locations of the actual test sites used for experimentation can be found in Appendix B. Due to the variability in test sites, test site characterization (side scan sonar and core sample) was performed during penetrometer testing instead of beforehand as was planned. A picture of the corer used during experimentation to gather sediment samples can be seen in Figure 23.





**Figure 23.** Corer used to gather sediment samples during experimentation.

The average interval between drops was about 10 minutes, so each YP trip took about 2 hours. Since the test locations are all fairly close to the Naval Academy, transit time was less than 15 minutes each way. Four YP excursions were made. These four excursions resulted in a total of 36 drops of the penetrometers, 23 drops of the 3-inch and 13 drops of the 9-inch.

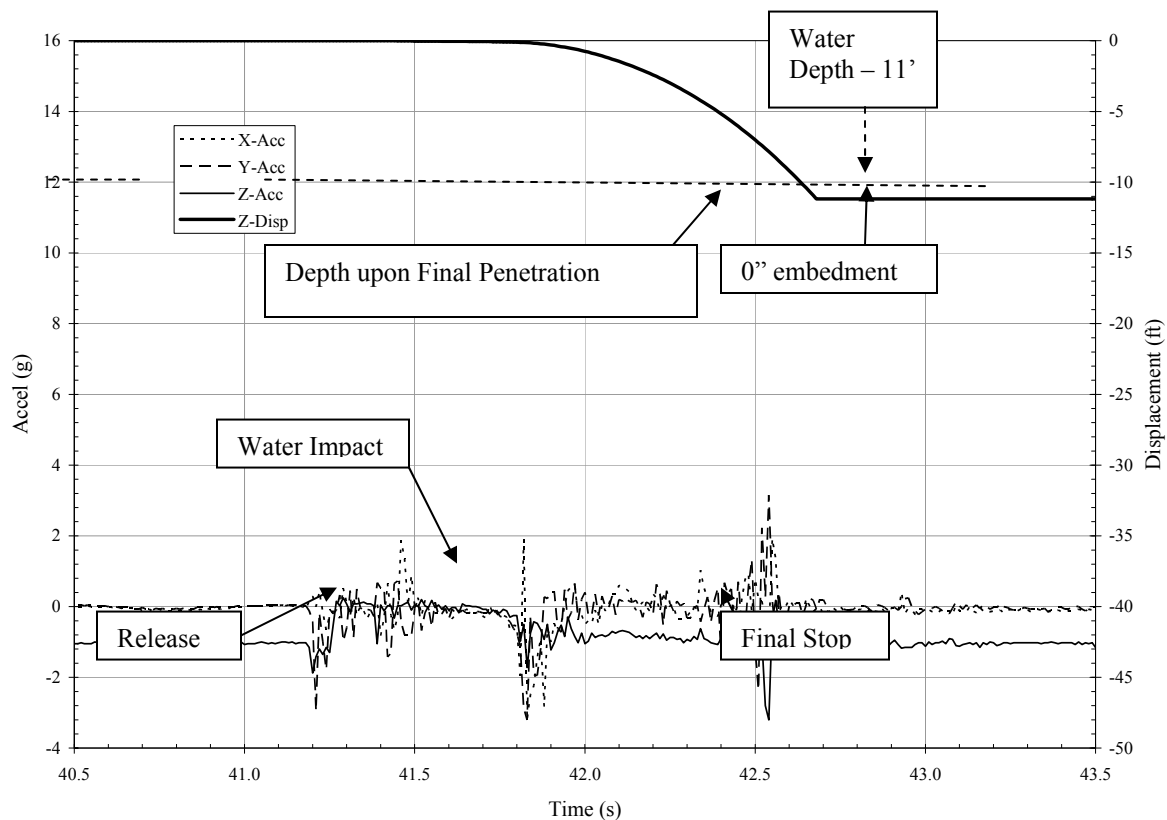
Each test drop produced a time-series of acceleration, which was integrated to determine terminal velocity and embedment depth. The results of each drop can be found in Appendix C. Since the accelerometer used in the experimentation was a three-axis accelerometer, accelerations were recorded in the x, y, and z directions. The axis of travel of the penetrometer for the experimental drops was the z axis. The x and y axes were parallel to the water's surface. Ideally, the penetrometer would travel completely vertical, perpendicular to the ground, recording accelerations in the x and y directions of zero. However, as can be seen in Figure 24

and Figure 25, this is not the case. Before release, the penetrometer is hanging vertical off the U-frame and is not moving. The x and y accelerations are zero and the z acceleration is -1 g, which accounts for gravity. The first changes in the x, y, and z accelerations are caused by a yank on the quick release mechanism attached to the penetrometer, causing the penetrometer to swing, thus giving the penetrometer acceleration in the x and y directions. At water impact, the z acceleration begins to decrease to a value less than -1 g due to fluid drag. The x and y accelerations continue to fluctuate throughout the penetrometers fall through the water due to deceleration and vibration. How much of the x and y acceleration is due to either deceleration or vibration is unknown since the angle at which the penetrometer is falling, if not vertical, is unknown. This problem could be solved by using an inertial navigation system, but an inertial navigation system was determined to be unnecessary in this study because of the assumption that the x and y accelerations were very small while the penetrometer was falling through the water. At impact, all three accelerations fluctuate again due to vibration, but once the penetrometer comes to rest the x and y accelerations return to zero and the z acceleration to -1 g.

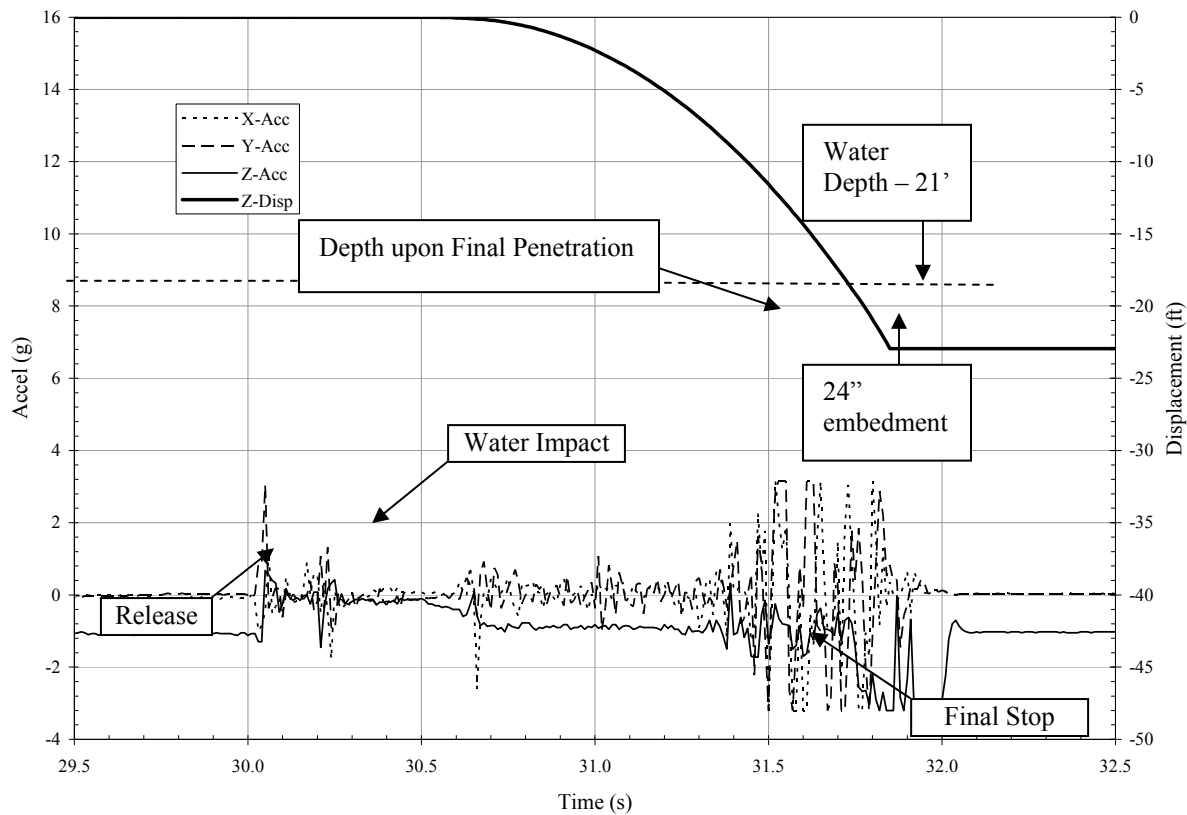
Originally it was thought that an obvious spike in the acceleration data would help determine the length of time across which the acceleration data would be integrated to obtain embedment depth. For a hard bottom, such as sand, this is the case. There is an obvious spike in the acceleration data in Figure 24. However, with a soft bottom, such as clay, there is an obvious spike in the data, as seen in Figure 25, but it exists over the course of sixth tenths of a second, making it hard to distinguish where to integrate to. After this difficulty was discovered, each drop was timed from the point of launch of the accelerometer to the release of the penetrometer from the U-frame so as to better distinguish the time span for integration. After obtaining more



data, the drops were compared and it became easier to distinguish the time span for integration for each drop. Embedment depths for the clay drops can be found in Appendix C.



**Figure 24.** Typical drop test results for 3 and 9-inch penetrometer, sand bottom (11-ft water depth)



**Figure 25.** Typical drop test results 3-inch penetrometer, clay bottom (21-ft water depth)

Using the experimental data and equations 3, 4, and 5, new values were calculated for the strain rate constants shown in Table 1. The smallest experimental diameter (3-inch) is close to that by True (1976) in the founding research in this field and on which the Navy method is based. Since the other diameter tested was three times this baseline, and all other parameters (e.g. impact velocity, length-to-diameter ratio, nose angle, etc.) were held constant, we were able to discern how the strain rate constants were affected by diameter.

## Results and Discussion

For every location where drops were made, a core sample of the sediment was taken. As previously mentioned, the one exception is at the sand location where the corer was unable to

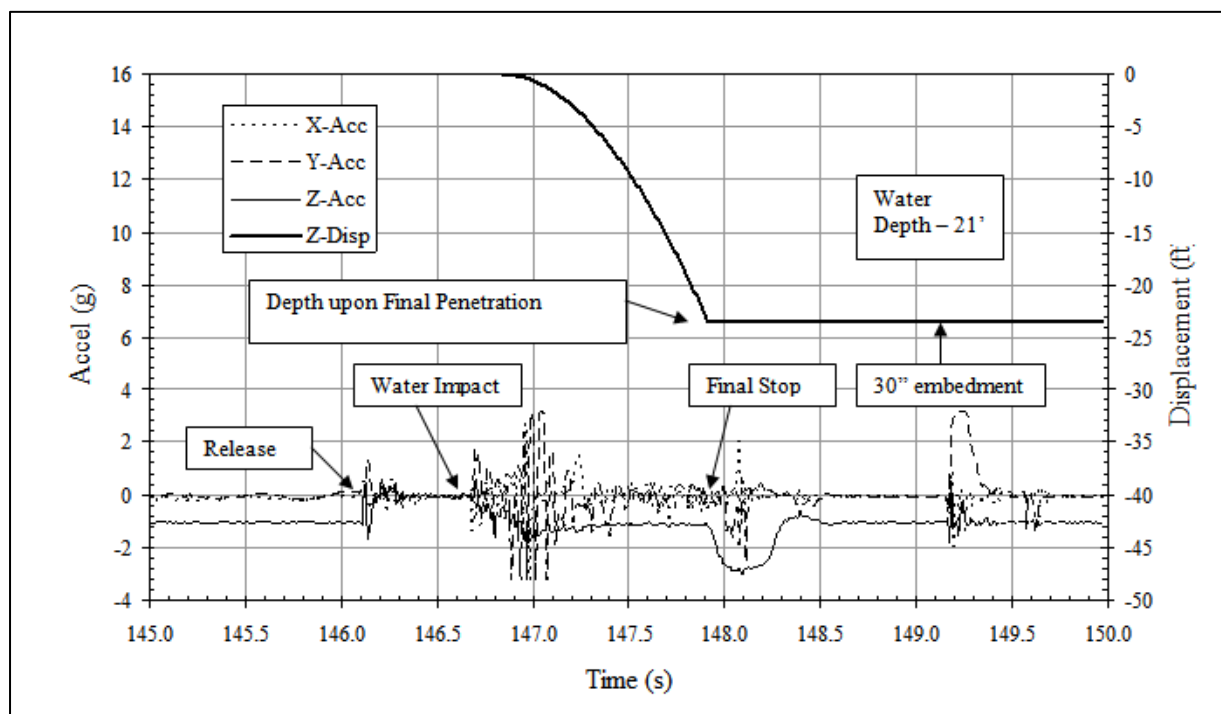
penetrate and obtain a sample. However, as long as the sediment type is known to be sand is not as important to obtain a sample of the sand because by definition, sand is cohesionless. Therefore, the shear strength of sand is zero. The water inside the core samples was not drained from the samples because it was important for this research to measure the undrained shear strength of the sample, so as to have an *in situ* value for the sediment's shear strength. The core samples were taken back to the lab and allowed to settle for at least two days before any measurements of their shear strengths were taken. This time allowed the disturbed sediments time to settle back into their original positions before they were removed from the sea floor. For drops made in clay, the shear strengths of all samples were measured using a vane shear test. The shear strength of all samples was measured at 1 KPa. However, the accuracy of these values is questionable because the available equipment was not ideal. A triaxial shear test could have been used to obtain more accurate values of shear strength, but the apparatus was not readily available.

For the drops made at site Bravo, the sand site, no penetration was expected with the 3-inch or 9-inch penetrometer. The water depth was 11 feet. Therefore, 11 feet of displacement was expected after integrating the data obtained from the accelerometer. As seen in Figure 24 and Appendix C, 11 feet of displacement was calculated. The penetrometers did not penetrate the seafloor.

For drops made at site Charlie, the clay site, penetration was known to have occurred with the 3-inch penetrometer because when the penetrometer was recovered it was covered in clay up to the top of its fins. The water depth was 21 feet. Therefore, over 21 feet of displacement was expected after integrating the data obtained from the accelerometer. As seen in Figure 25 and Appendix C and D, an average of 22.97 feet of displacement was calculated.

The penetrometer penetrated an average of 1.97 ft (23.64 in) into the seafloor, which is in agreement with the calculations for long, cylindrical penetrometers in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering*. These experimental penetration results verified that the strain rate constants in the handbook for the 3-inch penetrometer were correct.

For drops made with the 9-inch penetrometer at site Charlie, penetration was also known to have occurred because the penetrometer was recovered with clay covering over half of the penetrometer's body. As seen in Figure 26 and Appendix C and D, an average of 23.53 feet of displacement was calculated in the site's 21 foot water depth. The penetrometer penetrated an average of 2.53 ft (30.34 in) into the seafloor. The calculations in the handbook under-predicted the 9-inch penetrometer's penetration at 24.4 inches.



**Figure 26.** Typical drop test results 9-inch penetrometer, clay bottom (21-ft water depth)

### Strain Rate Constants

New strain rate constants were calculated for larger diameter objects based on the experimental penetration depths of the 9-inch penetrometer. The original strain rate constants along with the new strain rate constants for problems with penetrators greater than 3-inches in diameter can be found in Table 10.

**Table 10.** Original and new values of strain rate constants.

Condition for Use in Rapid Penetration Problems	Parameter Value		
	$S_e^*$	$C_e$	$C_o$
Problems with long, cylindrical penetrators	4	4	0.11
All other object shapes where inadequate penetration is of concern	3	10	0.25
All other object shapes where excess penetration is of primary concern	2	40	1

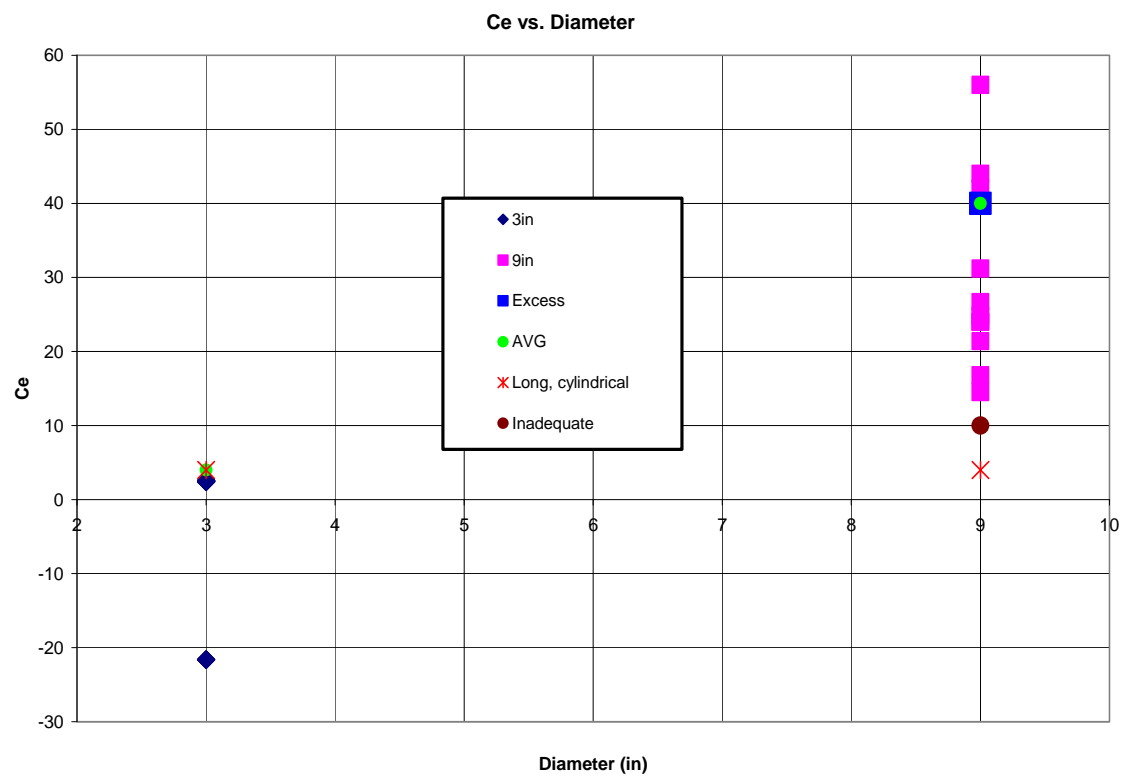
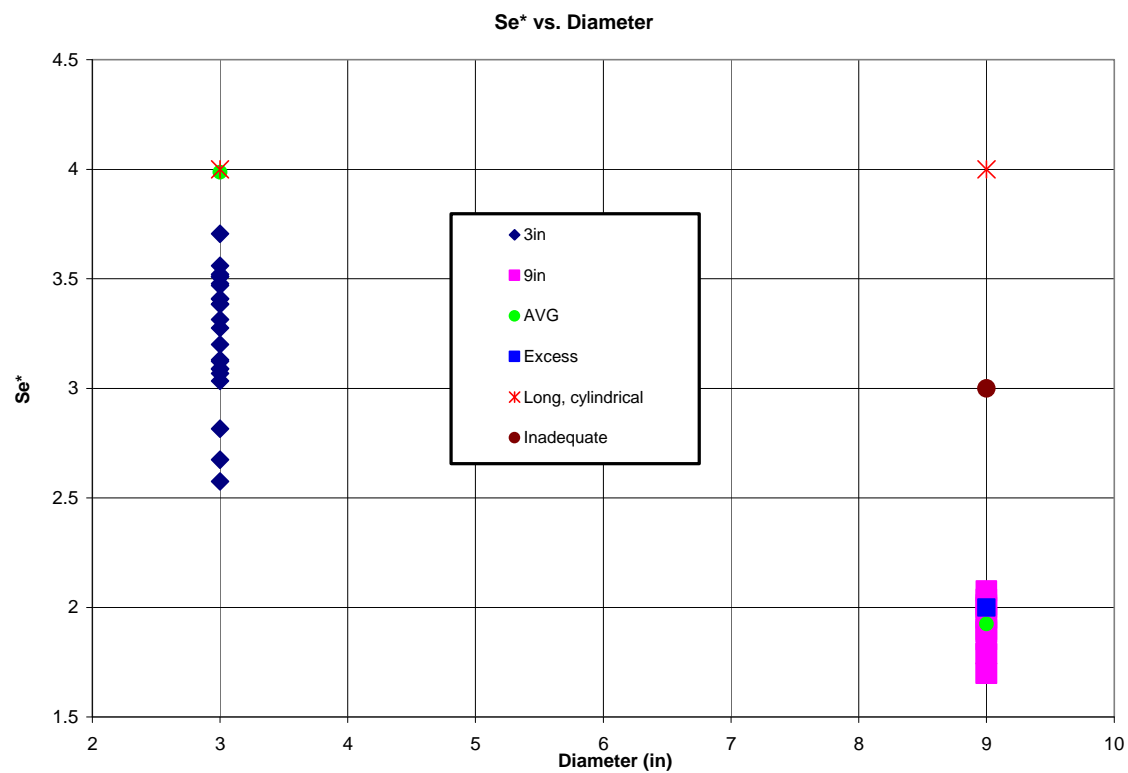
### New Values of Strain Rate Constants

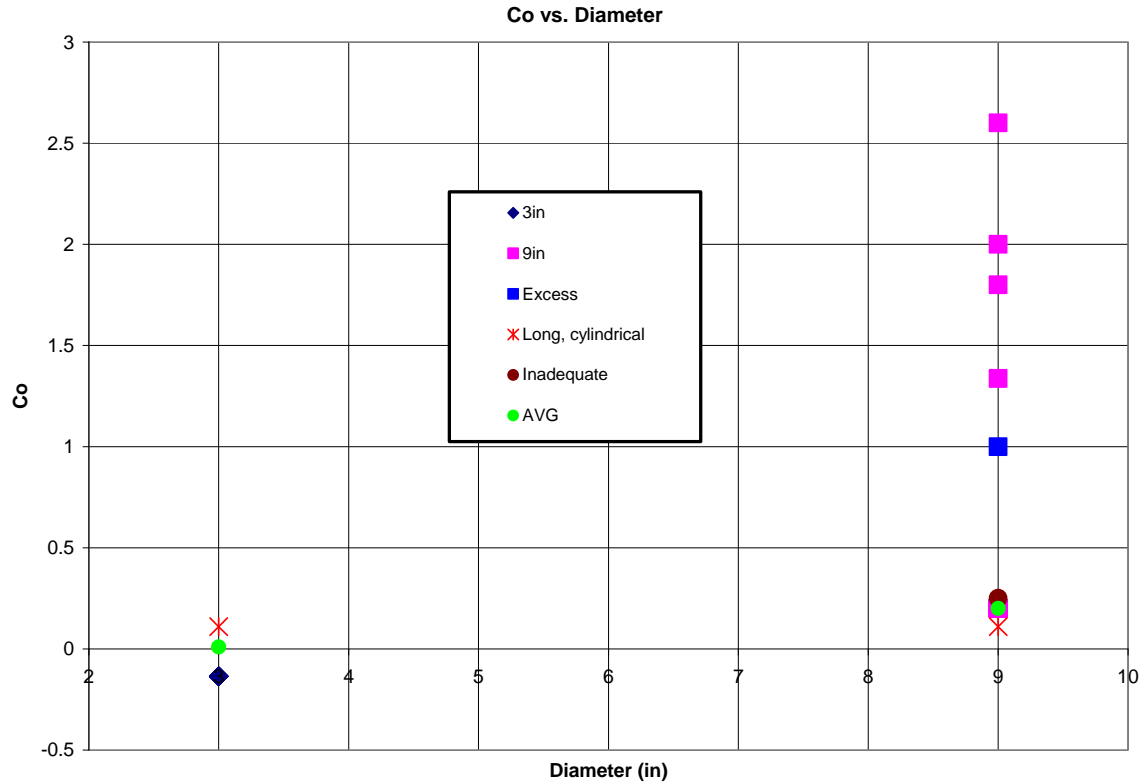
Problems with penetrators greater than 3 inches in diameter	2	40	0.2
-------------------------------------------------------------	---	----	-----

The new strain rate factors were calculated using the solver function in Excel. A view of the Excel file along with the macros and penetrometer specifications used for calculations can be found in Appendix E. Two different methods were used to calculate the strain rate factors. First, two of the strain rate factors were held constant while the other was allowed to vary for each drop's embedment depth. In the second method, all three strain rate factors were allowed to vary while solving for average embedment depth of the 3-inch and 9-inch penetrometer. This method

produced negative values for two of the three strain rate factors and produced values which were highly variant even with very slight changes in embedment for two of the three strain rate factors. The second method was chosen as the more accurate determination of the strain rate factors. The second method's strain rate factors for the average embedment depth of the 3-inch penetrometer agreed with the values in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering* verifying that the strain rate factors in the handbook for the 3-inch penetrometer were correct.

The calculated values for the strain rate constants  $S_e^*$ ,  $C_e$ , and  $C_o$  can be found in Figure 27, Figure 28, and Figure 29, respectively. The “3in” and “9in” data points represent the different values obtained for each embedment depth using method one. Several of the data points are repetitive. The “AVG” data point represents the values calculated for all three strain rate constants using method two. The “Excess” data point represents the value used in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering* to calculate penetration depth for “all other object shapes where excess penetration is of primary concern.” The “Long, cylindrical” data point represents the value used in the handbook to calculate penetration depth for “problems with long, cylindrical penetrometers.” The “Inadequate” data point represents the value used in the handbook to calculate penetration depth for “all other object shapes where inadequate penetration is of concern.”





**Figure 29.**  $C_o$  vs. Diameter for 3-inch and 9-inch penetrometer.

The overall effect of the new strain rate constants for objects larger than 3-inches in diameter was a decrease of the strain rate factor,  $S_{ei}$ . Based on this research, it could be agreed upon that as object diameter increases, the strain rate factor approaches zero. From the 3-inch to the 9-inch penetrometer, the strain rate constant  $C_e$  increased from 4 to 40, the strain rate constant  $C_o$  increased from 0.11 to 0.2, and the strain rate constant  $S_e^*$  decreased from 4 to 2. The strain rate constants are related to the strain rate factor by Equation 1. Based on Equation 1, as  $C_e$  and  $C_o$  increase and  $S_e^*$  decreases, the strain rate factor,  $S_{ei}$ , will decrease.



## Conclusion

Many, if not all of the project's original goals were completed. A field investigation of the experimental drop sites was conducted to confirm bathymetry, soil properties, and rule out underwater obstructions. Then, the Naval Academy's Oceanography YP was used to collect soil samples, side-scan sonar data, and sub-bottom profiles of each of the three drop sites. Soil property tests were performed on the collected samples in the Naval Academy's Ocean Engineering Lab and the locations of the test sites were adjusted accordingly.

Excursions were made on the YP to collect data for the 3-inch and 9-inch penetrometers in both clay and sand. The acceleration data from the tests was integrated and penetration depth versus time was plotted for each drop. Experimental penetration results verified that the strain rate factors in the *Handbook for Marine Geotechnical Engineering* for the 3-inch penetrometer were correct.

In LS-DYNA, models for cohesive and cohesionless impact were modeled and analyzed using the finite element program. The predicted penetration depths by LS-DYNA were compared to experimental results and the validity of the modeling was evaluated. The model's predicted penetration depths agreed with experimental results in cohesionless soils. Therefore, a successful model of penetrometer impact in cohesionless soils which can be used for parametric study was created using LS-DYNA. However, it was discovered that LS-DYNA Material Model 147 should not be used to model cohesive soils and a successful model of cohesive soil impact could not be created. Material Model 147 is currently maintained by APTEK Inc. and they have no contract to further develop the material model (Murray, 2008).

Finally, new strain rate constants were calculated for larger diameter objects based on the experimental penetration depths of the 9-inch penetrometer. As object diameter increased, the

product of the strain rate constants, the strain rate factor,  $S_{ei}$ , decreased. Suggestions for future research of this topic include performing more experimentation with a wider array of larger diameter penetrometers. It is possible that research into the strain rate constants of objects between 3 and 9-inches may produce separate strain rate constants for each diameter. Also, attempts should be made to use other material models in LS-DYNA to model penetrometer impact in cohesive soil. Suggested models for future research include material models 5, 14, 78, and 79. All of these models have built-in soil elements. Also, a more accurate method to distinguish the time span for integration for each drop should be used. In this research, the time span for integration was decided upon by comparing each drop and keeping the time span for integration consistent. Underwater video footage of each drop would make it possible to have a more accurate idea of the time span for integration of each drop.

This research into sediment strain-rate dependence on penetrator diameter has improved the Navy's ability to predict embedment depth of objects placed-on or impacting the seabed by expanding the applicability of existing algorithms. The experimental portion of the study extends past published work by increasing object diameter, and the large-deformation finite element analysis provides more understanding of the dynamic soil-structure interaction problem.

## **Glossary**

Bearing Strength – maximum load that can be applied without producing shear failure in the soil

Bulk Modulus – measure of resistance to uniform compression

Calcareous Sand – sediment containing a high proportion of calcium carbonate

Coulomb Friction Formulation – used to determine the combination of shear and normal stress that will cause a fracture of the material

Hardpan – a distinct soil layer that is largely impervious to water, a dense layer of soil

Littoral Sediments – sediments from the coast of an ocean or sea, or the bank of a lake, river, or estuary

MID – material identification number, used in LS-DYNA to specify which object is assigned the properties in an input card

Mohr-Coulomb Criterion – a typical soil yield surface, describes response of material, such as soil, to shear and normal stress

Poisson's Ratio – ratio of transverse strain to axial strain

Shear Modulus – ratio of shear stress to shear strain

Vane Shear Test – a standard test used to measure in situ sediment strength

Young's Modulus – measure of the stiffness of a given material, ratio of the rate of change of stress versus strain

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# Appendix A

## Keyword Files

3-inch penetrometer in cohesive sediment.....	71
3-inch penetrometer in cohesionless sediment.....	75
9-inch penetrometer in cohesive sediment.....	85
9-inch penetrometer in cohesionless sediment.....	95

```

*KEYWORD
*TITLE
3-inch Penetrometer in cohesive sediment
$
$ Units: kg, mm, ms, KN, GPa, KN-mm
$
*CONTROL_TERMINATION
$ endtim  endcyc  dtmin  endeng  endmas
  200.00
$
*CONTROL_TIMESTEP
$ dtinit  tssfacs  isdo  tslimt  dt2ms  lctm  erode  ms1st
  0.10  0.500000
$ dt2msf  dt2mslc  imslc
  0.000  0  0
$
*DATABASE_GLSTAT
$ dt  binary
  0.10  1
*DATABASE_MATSUM
$ dt  binary
  0.10  1
*DATABASE_NODOUT
$ dt  binary
  0.10  3
*DATABASE_RBDOUT
$ dt  binary
  0.10  3
*DATABASE_RCFORC
$ dt  binary
  0.10  1
*DATABASE_BINARY_D3PLOT
$ dt  lcdt  beam  npltc
  1.00
$ ioopt
  0
*CONTACT_AUTOMATIC_ONE_WAY_SURFACE_TO_SURFACE_ID
$ cid
title  1contact set
$ ssid  msid  sstyp  mstyp  sboxid  mboxid  spr  mpr
  4  1  3  3  0  0  1  1
$ fs  fd  dc  vc  vdc  penchk  bt  dt  0.00  0.00

  0.00  0.00  0.00  0  0.00  1.0E+20

```



```

$ sfs   sfm   sst   mst   sfst   sfmt   fsf   vsf
  1.00   1.00   0.00   0.00   1.00   1.00   1.00   1.00
$ soft   sofscf lcidab maxpar sbopt   depth   bsort   frcfrq
  1     0.10   0     1.025  2.000000 2     25     1
*PART
$ title 3in penetrometer
$ pid   secid   mid   eosid   hgid   grav   adpopt   tmid
  1     1     1
*SECTION_SHELL_TITLE
penetrometer
$ secid   elform   shrf   nip   propt   qr/irid   icomp   setyp
  1     2     1.00   2     1     0     0     1
$ t1     t2     t3     t4     nloc   marea
1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000
*MAT_RIGID_TITLE
rigid material for penetrometer
$ mid     ro     e   pr     n   couple     m   alias
  1     6.654E-5 200.00 0.31   0.00  0.00     0.00
$ cmo     con1   con2
  0.000   0     0
$ lco or a1     a2     a3     v1     v2     v3
  0.000   0.000  0.000  0.000  0.000  0.000
*PART
$# title
soil
$ pid   secid   mid   eosid   hgid   grav   adpopt   tmid
  4     2     4
*SECTION_SOLID_TITLE
soil
$ secid   elform   aet
  2     1
*MAT_FHWA_SOIL_TITLE
soil
$ mid     ro   nplot   spgrav   rhowat     vn   gammar   intrmx
  4     1.874E-6 1     2.78   1.00E-6   2.00  0.001   10
$ k     g   phimax   ahyp   coh   eccen   an     et
  0.065  0.106  0.000  0.000  0.007   1.00
$ mcont   pwd1   pwksk   pwd2   phires   dint   vdfm   damlev
  1.0     4.63   0.003  0.000  0.000   0.10   1.00
$ epsmax
  1.000000
*INITIAL_VELOCITY_RIGID_BODY
$# pid   vx     vy     vz     vxr     vyr     vzr
  1     0.000  -5.500000

```

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

soil

\$#    sid       da1       da2       da3       da4

1

\$#    n1       n2       n3       n4       a1       a2       a3       a4

6374   6385   6616   6605

6539   6550   6781   6770

3030   3031   2800   2799

2810   2799   2800   2811

3031   3032   2801   2800

2811   2800   2801   2812

....

10498   5351   10432   5406

10548   5466   10432   5351

5406   10432   5340   10487

5466   10537   5340   10432

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

penetrometer

\$#    sid       da1       da2       da3       da4

2

\$#    n1       n2       n3       n4       a1       a2       a3       a4

8       9       147       170

1       2       171       21

141       10       11       172

2       3       173       171

.....

1415   1414   1430   1429

1416   1415   1429   1428

1417   1416   1428   1427

1418   1417   1427   1425

\*ELEMENT\_SOLID

\$    eid    pid    n1    n2    n3    n4    n5    n6    n7    n8

12467   4   13740   13971   13982   13751   13741   13972   13983   13752

12468   4   13741   13972   13983   13752   13742   13973   13984   13753

```

.....
22465  4 16473 21439 16292 21489 21544 16347 21373 16407

22466  4 21544 16347 21373 16407 16462 21428 16281 21478
*ELEMENT_SHELL

```

```

$#  eid  pid  n1  n2  n3  n4  n5  n6  n7  n8

1    1    8    9   147  170

2    1    1    2   171  21

3    1   141   10  11   172

```

```

.....
1465  1   1417  1416  1428  1427

1466  1   1418  1417  1427  1425

```

```

*NODE

```

```

$#  nid  x      y      z      tc      rc

1  4.66590      43e-015      65.99113464  -38.099999847

2  4.0826662e-015  57.74224472  -33.33749771
3  3.4994281e-015  49.49335098  -28.57499886

```

```

.....
24678 149.16967773  -350.00003052  -29.83395195

24679 151.50001526  -350.00006104  -9.4978013e-006
24680 149.16967773  -350.00006104  29.83392143

```

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*END

```

\*KEYWORD

\*TITLE

3-inch Penetrometer in cohesionless sediment

\$

\$ Units: kg, mm, ms, KN, GPa, KN-mm

\$

\*CONTROL\_TERMINATION

\$# endtim endcyc dtmin endeng endmas

40.000000

\*CONTROL\_TIMESTEP

\$# dtinit tssfacs isdo tslimt dt2ms lctm erode ms1st

1.000000 0.450000 0 0.000 0.000 0 1

\$# dt2msf dt2mslc imsc1

0.010000

\*DATABASE\_GLSTAT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_MATSUM

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_NODOUT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RBDOUT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RCFORC

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_BINARY\_D3PLOT

\$# dt lcdt beam npltc

1.000000

\$# ioopt

0

\*CONTACT\_AUTOMATIC\_ONE\_WAY\_SURFACE\_TO\_SURFACE\_ID

\$# cid title

1contact set

\$# ssid msid sstyp mstyp sboxid mboxid spr mpr

4 1 3 3 0 0 1 1

\$# fs fd dc vc vdc penchk bt dt

0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0 0.0001.0000E+20

\$# sfs sfm sst mst sfst sfmt fsf vsf

1.000000 1.000000 0.000 0.000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000

\$# soft sofscl lcidab maxpar sbopt depth bsort frcfrq

1 0.100000 0 1.025000 2.000000 2 25 1

\*PART

\$# title

3in penetrometer

\$# pid secid mid eosid hgid grav adpopt tmid

1 1 1

\*SECTION\_SHELL\_TITLE

penetrometer

\$# secid elform shrf nip propt qr/irid icip setyp

1 2 1.000000 2 1 0 0 1

\$# t1 t2 t3 t4 nloc marea

1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000

\*MAT\_RIGID\_TITLE

rigid material for penetrometer

\$# mid ro e pr n couple m alias

1 6.6540E-5 200.00000 0.310000 0.000 0.000 0.000

\$# cmo con1 con2

0.000 0 0

\$#lco or a1 a2 a3 v1 v2 v3

0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000

\*PART

\$# title

soil

\$# pid secid mid eosid hgid grav adpopt tmid

4 2 4

\*SECTION\_SOLID\_TITLE

soil

\$# secid elform aet

2 1

\*MAT\_FHWA\_SOIL\_TITLE

soil

```

$# mid ro nplot spgrav rhowat vn gammar intrmx
    4 2.0820E-6 1 2.650000 1.0000E-6 2.000000 0.001000 10

$# k g phimax ahyp coh eccen an et
    0.115000 0.069000 0.610000 4.4350E-7 6.2000E-6 1.000000

$# mcont pwd1 pwksk pwd2 phires dint vdfm damlev
    0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.001000 0.100000 1.000000

$# epsmax
1.000000

*INITIAL_VELOCITY_RIGID_BODY

$# pid vx vy vz vxr vyr vzr
    1 0.000 -5.500000

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NODESET(SPC) 1

$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4
1

$# nid1 nid2 nid3 nid4 nid5 nid6 nid7 nid8
    1468 1469 1470 1471 1472 1473 1474 1475
    1476 1477 1478 1479 1489 1490 1500 1501
    1511 1512 1522 1523 1533 1534 1544 1545
    1555 1556 1566 1567 1577 1578 1579 1580
    1581 1582 1583 1584 1585 1586 1587 1588
    1589 1599 1699 1709 1710 1720 1820 1830

```

1831	1841	1941	1951	1952	1962	2062	2072
2073	2083	2183	2193	2194	2204	2304	2314
2315	2325	2425	2435	2436	2446	2546	2556
2557	2567	2667	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681
2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689
2699	2700	2710	2711	2721	2722	2732	2733
2743	2744	2754	2755	2765	2766	2776	2777
2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794
2795	2796	2797	2798				

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC)

2

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

2

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
-----	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

.....

13700	13701	13702	13703	13704	13705	13706	13707
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

13708	13709	13710	13711	13712	13713	13714	13715
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

13716	13717	13718	13719	13720	13721	13722	13723
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------



13724	13725	13726	13727	13728	13729	13730	13731
13732	13733	13734	13735	13736	13737	13738	13739

```
*SET_NODE_LIST_TITLE
NODESET(SPC) 3
```

```
$#  sid  da1  da2  da3  da4
```

3

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	
2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	
2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	
2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	

13695	13696	13697	13698	13699	13700	13701	13702
13703	13704	13705	13706	13707	13708	13709	13710
13711	13712	13713	13714	13715	13716	13717	13718
13719	13720	13721	13722	13723	13724	13725	13726
13727	13728	13729	13730	13731	13732	13733	13734
13735	13736	13737	13738	13739			

```
*SET_NODE_LIST_TITLE
NODESET(SPC) 4
```

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
-----	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806
2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814
2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822
2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830
2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838

.....

13703	13704	13705	13706	13707	13708	13709	13710
13711	13712	13713	13714	13715	13716	13717	13718
13719	13720	13721	13722	13723	13724	13725	13726
13727	13728	13729	13730	13731	13732	13733	13734
13735	13736	13737	13738	13739			

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

soil

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

1

\$#	n1	n2	n3	n4	a1	a2	a3	a4
-----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

6374	6385	6616	6605
------	------	------	------

6539	6550	6781	6770
------	------	------	------

3030	3031	2800	2799
------	------	------	------

2810	2799	2800	2811
------	------	------	------

3031	3032	2801	2800
------	------	------	------

.....

10498	5351	10432	5406
-------	------	-------	------

10548	5466	10432	5351
-------	------	-------	------

5406 10432 5340 10487

5466 10537 5340 10432

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE  
penetrometer

\$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4

2

\$# n1 n2 n3 n4 a1 a2 a3 a4

8 9 147 170

1 2 171 21

141 10 11 172

2 3 173 171

3 4 174 173

.....

1415 1414 1430 1429

1416 1415 1429 1428

1417 1416 1428 1427

1418 1417 1427 1425

\*ELEMENT\_SOLID

\$# eid pid n1 n2 n3 n4 n5 n6 n7 n8

12467 4 13740 13971 13982 13751 13741 13972 13983 13752

12468 4 13741 13972 13983 13752 13742 13973 13984 13753

12469 4 13742 13973 13984 13753 13743 13974 13985 13754

12470 4 13743 13974 13985 13754 13744 13975 13986 13755

12471 4 13744 13975 13986 13755 13745 13976 13987 13756

.....

22463 4 16484 21450 16303 21500 21555 16358 21384 16418

22464 4 21555 16358 21384 16418 16473 21439 16292 21489

22465 4 16473 21439 16292 21489 21544 16347 21373 16407

22466 4 21544 16347 21373 16407 16462 21428 16281 21478

\*ELEMENT\_SHELL

\$# eid pid n1 n2 n3 n4 n5 n6 n7 n8

1 1 8 9 147 170

2 1 1 2 171 21

3 1 141 10 11 172

4 1 2 3 173 171

5 1 3 4 174 173

.....

1460 1 1412 1411 1433 1432

1461 1 1413 1412 1432 1431

1462 1 1414 1413 1431 1430

1463 1 1415 1414 1430 1429

1464 1 1416 1415 1429 1428

1465 1 1417 1416 1428 1427

1466 1 1418 1417 1427 1425

\*NODE

\$# nid x y z tc rc

1 4.6659043e-015 65.99113464 -38.09999847

2 4.0826662e-015 57.74224472 -33.33749771

3	3.4994281e-015	49.49335098	-28.57499886
4	2.9161902e-015	41.24446106	-23.81250000
5	2.3329524e-015	32.99556732	-19.04999924
6	1.7497139e-015	24.74667358	-14.28749752
7	1.1664758e-015	16.49777985	-9.52499771
8	5.8323756e-016	8.24888420	-4.76249552

.....

24676	134.39915466	-350.00006104	-80.63949585
24677	142.91722107	-350.00006104	-57.16689301
24678	149.16967773	-350.00003052	-29.83395195
24679	151.50001526	-350.00006104	-9.4978013e-006
24680	149.16967773	-350.00006104	29.83392143

\*END

\*KEYWORD

\*TITLE

9-inch Penetrometer in cohesive sediment

\$

\$ Units: kg, mm, ms, KN, GPa, KN-mm

\$

\*CONTROL\_TERMINATION

\$# endtim endcyc dtmin endeng endmas

200.00000

\*CONTROL\_TIMESTEP

\$# dtinit tssfac isdo tslimt dt2ms lctm erode ms1st

0.100000 0.500000

\$# dt2msf dt2mslc imsc1

0.000 0 0

\*DATABASE\_GLSTAT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_MATSUM

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_NODOUT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RBDOUT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RCFORC

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_BINARY\_D3PLOT

\$# dt lcdt beam npltc

1.000000

\$# ioopt  
0

\*CONTACT\_AUTOMATIC\_ONE\_WAY\_SURFACE\_TO\_SURFACE\_ID

\$# cid title

2contact description

\$# ssid msid sstyp mstyp sboxid mboxid spr mpr

6 5 3 3 0 0 1

\$# fs fd dc vc vdc penchk bt dt

0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0 0.0001.0000E+20

\$# sfs sfm sst mst sfst sfmt fsf vsf

1.000000 1.000000 0.000 0.000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000

\$# soft sofscl lcidab maxpar sbopt depth bsort frcfrq

0 0.100000 0 1.025000 2.000000 2 25 1

\*PART

\$# title

9in penetrometer

\$# pid secid mid eosid hgid grav adpopt tmid

5 1 1

\*SECTION\_SHELL\_TITLE

penetrometer

\$#	secid	elform	shrf	nip	propt	qr/irid	icomp	setyp
1	2	1.000000	2	1	0	0	1	

\$#	t1	t2	t3	t4	nloc	mare
1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000		

\*MAT\_RIGID\_TITLE

rigid material for penetrometer

\$#	mid	ro	e	pr	n	couple	m	alias
1	5.5130E-5	200.00000	0.310000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

\$#	cmo	con1	con2
0.000	0	0	

\$#lco	or	a1	a2	a3	v1	v2	v3
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

\*PART

\$# title

Solid1

\$#	pid	secid	mid	eosid	hgid	grav	adpopt	tmid
6	2	4						

\*SECTION\_SOLID\_TITLE

soil

\$#	secid	elform	aet
2	1		



\*MAT\_FHWA\_SOIL\_TITLE

soil

\$#	mid	ro	nplot	spgrav	rhowat	vn	gammar	intrmx
	4	1.8740E-6	1	2.780000	1.0000E-6	2.000000	0.001000	10

\$#	k	g	phimax	ahyp	coh	eccen	an	et
	0.065000	0.106000	0.000	0.000	0.007000	1.000000		

\$#	mcont	pwd1	pwksk	pwd2	phires	dint	vdfm	damlev
	1.000000	4.630000	0.003000	0.000	0.000	0.100000	1.000000	

\$#	epsmax
	1.000000

\*INITIAL\_VELOCITY\_RIGID\_BODY

\$#	pid	vx	vy	vz	vxr	vyr	vzr
	5	0.000	-5.500000				

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC) 1

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
	1				

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
	1468	1469	1470	1471	1472	1473	1474	1475
	1476	1477	1478	1479	1489	1490	1500	1501
	1511	1512	1522	1523	1533	1534	1544	1545
	1555	1556	1566	1567	1577	1578	1579	1580
	1581	1582	1583	1584	1585	1586	1587	1588
	1589	1599	1699	1709	1710	1720	1820	1830

1831	1841	1941	1951	1952	1962	2062	2072
2073	2083	2183	2193	2194	2204	2304	2314
2315	2325	2425	2435	2436	2446	2546	2556
2557	2567	2667	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681
2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689
2699	2700	2710	2711	2721	2722	2732	2733
2743	2744	2754	2755	2765	2766	2776	2777
2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794
2795	2796	2797	2798				

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC) 2

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

2

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
-----	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

.....							
13708	13709	13710	13711	13712	13713	13714	13715
13716	13717	13718	13719	13720	13721	13722	13723
13724	13725	13726	13727	13728	13729	13730	13731

13732 13733 13734 13735 13736 13737 13738 13739

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC) 3

\$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4

3

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	
2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	
2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	
2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	
2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838	

.....

13711	13712	13713	13714	13715	13716	13717	13718
13719	13720	13721	13722	13723	13724	13725	13726
13727	13728	13729	13730	13731	13732	13733	13734
13735	13736	13737	13738	13739			

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC) 4

\$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4

4

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	
2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	

2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822
2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830
2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838
2839	2840	2841	2842	2843	2844	2845	2846

```

.....
13711 13712 13713 13714 13715 13716 13717 13718
13719 13720 13721 13722 13723 13724 13725 13726
13727 13728 13729 13730 13731 13732 13733 13734
13735 13736 13737 13738 13739

```

```

*SET_SEGMENT_TITLE
soil

```

```

$#  sid    da1    da2    da3    da4

```

```

1

```

```

$#  n1     n2     n3     n4     a1     a2     a3     a4

```

```

6374 6385 6616 6605
6539 6550 6781 6770

```

```

3030 3031 2800 2799
2810 2799 2800 2811

```

```

3031 3032 2801 2800
2811 2800 2801 2812

```

```

3032 3033 2802 2801
2812 2801 2802 2813

```

```

3033 3034 2803 2802
2813 2802 2803 2814

```

```

.....
10509 5362 10443 5417
10559 5477 10443 5362

```

5417	10443	5351	10498
5477	10548	5351	10443

10498	5351	10432	5406
10548	5466	10432	5351

5406	10432	5340	10487
5466	10537	5340	10432

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

penetrometer

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

2

\$#	n1	n2	n3	n4	a1	a2	a3	a4
-----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

8	9	147	170
---	---	-----	-----

1	2	171	21
---	---	-----	----

141	10	11	172
-----	----	----	-----

2	3	173	171
---	---	-----	-----

3	4	174	173
---	---	-----	-----

142	141	172	175
-----	-----	-----	-----

.....

1414	1413	1431	1430
------	------	------	------

1415	1414	1430	1429
------	------	------	------

1416	1415	1429	1428
------	------	------	------

1417	1416	1428	1427
------	------	------	------

1418	1417	1427	1425
------	------	------	------

\*ELEMENT\_SOLID

\$#	eid	pid	n1	n2	n3	n4	n5	n6	n7	n8
	31166	6	33372	33713	33724	33383	33373	33714	33725	33384
	31167	6	33373	33714	33725	33384	33374	33715	33726	33385
	31168	6	33374	33715	33726	33385	33375	33716	33727	33386
	31169	6	33375	33716	33727	33386	33376	33717	33728	33387

---

	46162	6	37381	44712	37145	44817	44872	37200	44646	37315
	46163	6	44872	37200	44646	37315	37370	44701	37134	44806
	46164	6	37370	44701	37134	44806	44861	37189	44635	37304
	46165	6	44861	37189	44635	37304	37359	44690	37123	44795

\*ELEMENT\_SHELL

\$#	eid	pid	n1	n2	n3	n4	n5	n6	n7	n8
	22467	5	25047	25048	25065	25064				
	22468	5	25046	25047	25064	25066				
	22469	5	25045	25046	25066	25067				
	22470	5	25044	25045	25067	25068				

---

	31162	5	33322	33323	33250	33251				
	31163	5	33249	33250	33323	33324				
	31164	5	33248	33249	33324	33325				
	31165	5	33247	33248	33325	33326				

\*NODE

\$#	nid	x	y	z	tc	rc
-----	-----	---	---	---	----	----

```
1 4.6659043e-015 65.99113464 -38.09999847
2 4.0826662e-015 57.74224472 -33.33749771
3 3.4994281e-015 49.49335098 -28.57499886
4 2.9161902e-015 41.24446106 -23.81250000

.....
49519 308.13064575 -1000.0000000 61.62612152
49520 467.81451416 -950.00000000 -187.12582397
49521 263.19549561 -549.99993896 -210.55639648
49522 280.43591309 -549.99993896 -168.26155090

*END
```

\*KEYWORD

\*TITLE

9-inch Penetrometer in cohesionless sediment

\$

\$ Units: kg, mm, ms, KN, GPa, KN-mm

\$

\*CONTROL\_TERMINATION

\$# endtim endcyc dtmin endeng endmas

40.000000

\*CONTROL\_TIMESTEP

\$# dtinit tssfac isdo tslimt dt2ms lctm erode ms1st

1.000000 0.450000 0 0.000 0.000 0 1

\$# dt2msf dt2mslc imsc1

0.010000

\*DATABASE\_GLSTAT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_MATSUM

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_NODOUT

\$# dt binary

0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RBDOUT

\$# dt binary



0.100000 3

\*DATABASE\_RCFORC

\$# dt binary

0.100000 1

\*DATABASE\_BINARY\_D3PLOT

\$# dt lcdt beam npltc

1.000000

\$# ioopt

0

\*CONTACT\_AUTOMATIC\_ONE\_WAY\_SURFACE\_TO\_SURFACE\_ID

\$# cid title

1contact set

\$# ssid msid sstyp mstyp sboxid mboxid spr mpr

7 5 3 3 0 0 1 1

\$# fs fd dc vc vdc penchk bt dt

0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0 0.0001.0000E+20

\$# sfs sfm sst mst sfst sfmt fsf vsf

1.000000 1.000000 0.000 0.000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000

\$# soft sofscf lcidab maxpar sbopt depth bsort frcfrq

1 0.100000 0 1.025000 2.000000 2 25 1

\*PART

\$# title

9in penetrometer

```
$#  pid  secid  mid  eosid  hgid  grav  adpopt  tmid
```

```
    5    1    1
```

```
*SECTION_SHELL_TITLE
```

```
penetrometer
```

```
$#  secid  elform  shrf  nip  propt  qr/irid  icomp  setyp
```

```
    1    2 1.000000    2    1    0    0    1
```

```
$#  t1    t2    t3    t4  nloc  marea
```

```
1.000000 1.000000 1.000000 1.000000
```

```
*MAT_RIGID_TITLE
```

```
rigid material for penetrometer
```

```
$#  mid    ro    e    pr    n  couple    m  alias
```

```
    1 5.5134E-5 200.00000 0.310000  0.000  0.000  0.000
```

```
$#  cmo    con1    con2
```

```
  0.000    0    0
```

```
$#lco or a1    a2    a3    v1    v2    v3
```

```
  0.000  0.000  0.000  0.000  0.000  0.000
```

```
*PART
```

```
$# title
```

```
9 in soil larger
```

```
$#  pid  secid  mid  eosid  hgid  grav  adpopt  tmid
```

```
    7    2    4
```

```
*SECTION_SOLID_TITLE
```

```
soil
```

```
$#  secid  elform  aet
```

2 1

\*MAT\_FHWA\_SOIL\_TITLE

soil

\$# mid ro nplot spgrav rhowat vn gammar intrmx

4 2.0820E-6 1 2.650000 1.0000E-6 2.000000 0.001000 10

\$# k g phimax ahyp coh eccen an et

0.115000 0.069000 0.610000 4.4350E-7 6.2000E-6 1.000000

\$# mcont pwd1 pwksk pwd2 phires dint vdfm damlev

0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.001000 0.100000 1.000000

\$# epsmax

1.000000

\*INITIAL\_VELOCITY\_RIGID\_BODY

\$# pid vx vy vz vxr vyr vzr

5 0.000 -5.500000

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE

NODESET(SPC) 1

\$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4

1

\$# nid1 nid2 nid3 nid4 nid5 nid6 nid7 nid8

1468 1469 1470 1471 1472 1473 1474 1475

1476 1477 1478 1479 1489 1490 1500 1501

1511 1512 1522 1523 1533 1534 1544 1545

1555 1556 1566 1567 1577 1578 1579 1580

1581	1582	1583	1584	1585	1586	1587	1588
1589	1599	1699	1709	1710	1720	1820	1830
1831	1841	1941	1951	1952	1962	2062	2072
2073	2083	2183	2193	2194	2204	2304	2314
2315	2325	2425	2435	2436	2446	2546	2556
2557	2567	2667	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681
2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689
2699	2700	2710	2711	2721	2722	2732	2733
2743	2744	2754	2755	2765	2766	2776	2777
2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794
2795	2796	2797	2798				

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE  
NODESET(SPC) 2

\$#    sid    da1    da2    da3    da4

2

\$#    nid1    nid2    nid3    nid4    nid5    nid6    nid7    nid8

1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8

9    10    11    12    13    14    15    16

17    18    19    20    21    22    23    24

25    26    27    28    29    30    31    32

.....  
13711    13712    13713    13714    13715    13716    13717    13718  
13719    13720    13721    13722    13723    13724    13725    13726

13727 13728 13729 13730 13731 13732 13733 13734

13735 13736 13737 13738 13739

\*SET\_NODE\_LIST\_TITLE  
NODESET(SPC) 4

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
	4				

\$#	nid1	nid2	nid3	nid4	nid5	nid6	nid7	nid8
2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	
2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	
2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	
2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	

.....

13711	13712	13713	13714	13715	13716	13717	13718
13719	13720	13721	13722	13723	13724	13725	13726
13727	13728	13729	13730	13731	13732	13733	13734
13735	13736	13737	13738	13739			

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

soil

\$#	sid	da1	da2	da3	da4
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

1

\$#	n1	n2	n3	n4	a1	a2	a3	a4
6374	6385	6616	6605					
6539	6550	6781	6770					
3030	3031	2800	2799					

2810 2799 2800 2811

.....

10509 5362 10443 5417  
10559 5477 10443 5362

5417 10443 5351 10498  
5477 10548 5351 10443

10498 5351 10432 5406  
10548 5466 10432 5351

5406 10432 5340 10487  
5466 10537 5340 10432

\*SET\_SEGMENT\_TITLE

penetrometer

\$# sid da1 da2 da3 da4  
2

\$# n1 n2 n3 n4 a1 a2 a3 a4

8 9 147 170

1 2 171 21

141 10 11 172

2 3 173 171

3 4 174 173

.....

1412 1411 1433 1432  
1413 1412 1432 1431

1414 1413 1431 1430  
1415 1414 1430 1429

1416 1415 1429 1428  
1417 1416 1428 1427

1418 1417 1427 1425

\*ELEMENT\_SOLID

\$#	eid	pid	n1	n2	n3	n4	n5	n6	n7	n8
46166	7	49523	49864	49875	49534	49524	49865	49876	49535	
46167	7	49524	49865	49876	49535	49525	49866	49877	49536	
46168	7	49525	49866	49877	49536	49526	49867	49878	49537	
46169	7	49526	49867	49878	49537	49527	49868	49879	49538	
.....										
61162	7	57029	60863	53296	61052	57028	53351	60797	61041	
61163	7	57028	53351	60797	61041	57027	60852	53285	61030	
61164	7	57027	60852	53285	61030	57026	53340	60786	61019	
61165	7	57026	53340	60786	61019	57025	60841	53274	61008	

\*ELEMENT\_SHELL

\$#	eid	pid	n1	n2	n3	n4	n5	n6	n7	n8
22467	5	25047	25048	25065	25064					
22468	5	25046	25047	25064	25066					
22469	5	25045	25046	25066	25067					
22470	5	25044	25045	25067	25068					
.....										
31162	5	33322	33323	33250	33251					
31163	5	33249	33250	33323	33324					
31164	5	33248	33249	33324	33325					
31165	5	33247	33248	33325	33326					

\*NODE

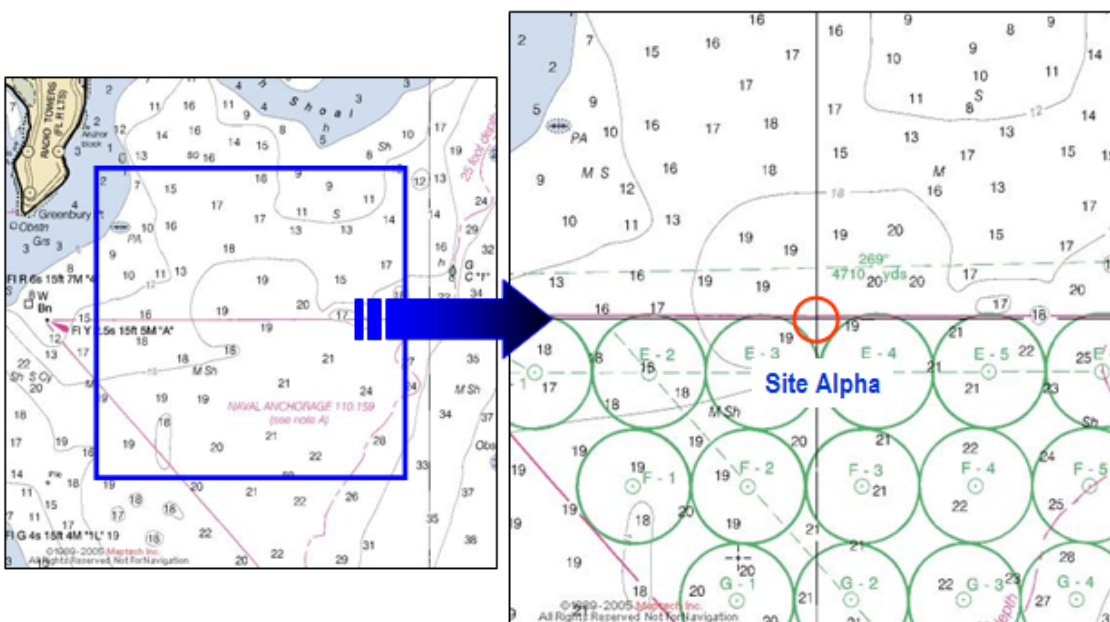
\$#	nid	x	y	z	tc	rc
1	4.6659043e-015		65.99113464	-38.09999847		
2	4.0826662e-015		57.74224472	-33.33749771		
3	3.4994281e-015		49.49335098	-28.57499886		
4	2.9161902e-015		41.24446106	-23.81250000		
.....						
66204	487.07330322	-1866.6665039	-12.07333469			
66205	476.89093018	-1866.6665039	83.78777313			
66206	453.63470459	-1866.6665039	171.31225586			
66207	422.82650757	-1866.6665039	245.96894836			
66208	389.76220703	-1866.6665039	307.46334839			
66209	464.50061035	-2000.0000000	-196.66627502			
66210	382.85171509	-1933.3332520	-382.85171509			
66211	409.85565186	-1933.3332520	-332.38616943			

\*END

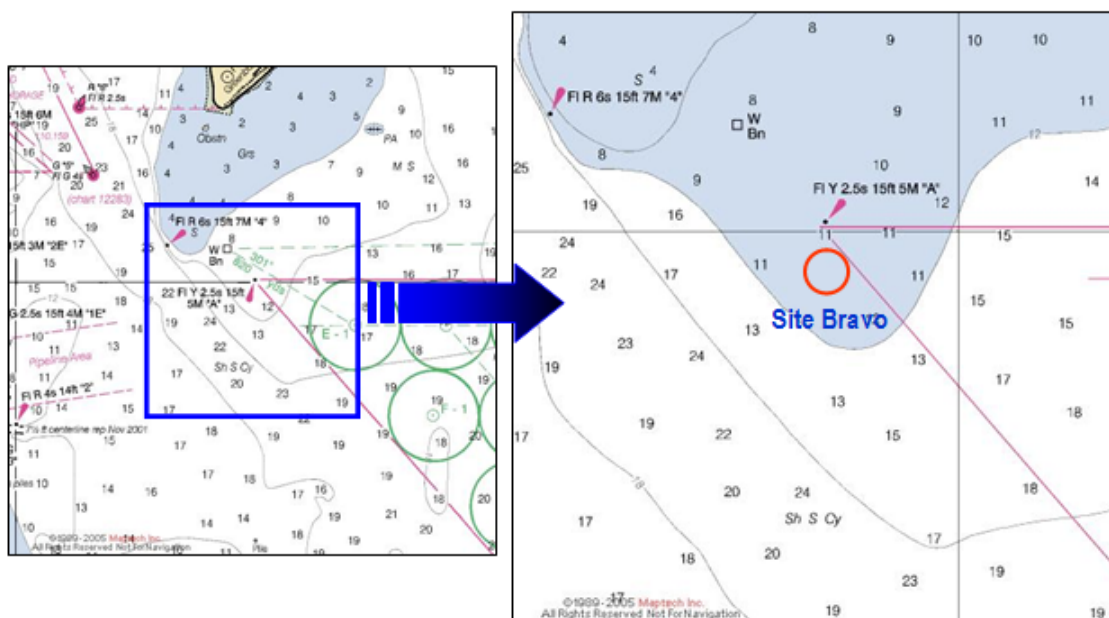


# Appendix B

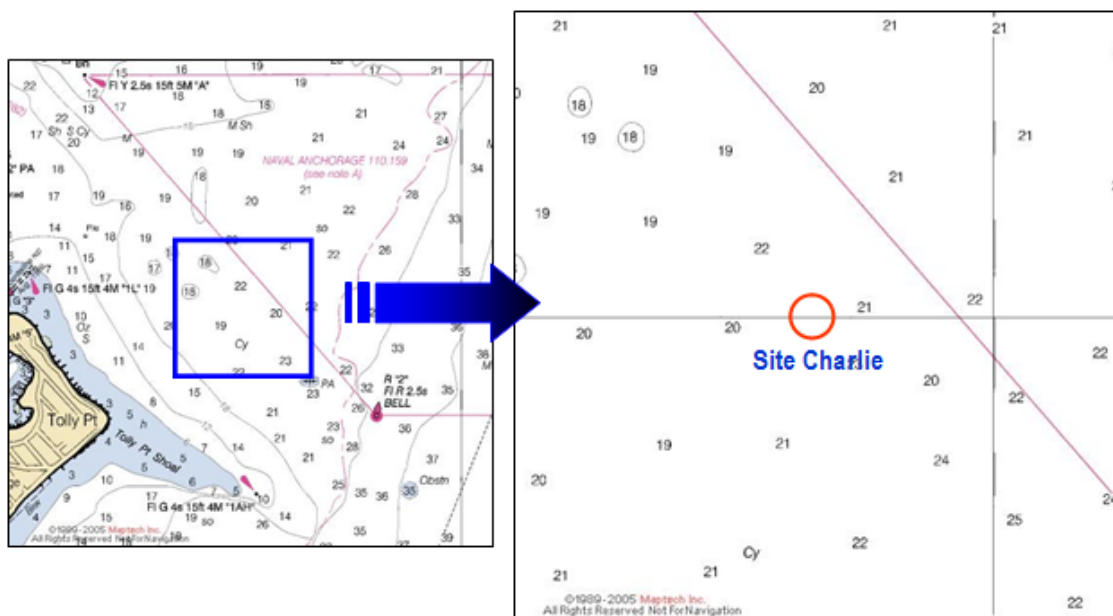
## Test Site Locations



1 Oct 07, Site Alpha ( $38^{\circ}58'N$   $76^{\circ}26'W$ ), Clay



15 Oct 07 and 19 Feb 08, Site Bravo ( $38^{\circ}57.95'N$   $76^{\circ}27.15'W$ ), Sand



15 Oct 07, 19 Feb 08, and 31 Mar, Site Charlie ( $38^{\circ}57.0'N$   $76^{\circ}26.2'W$ ), Clay

## Appendix C

### Accelerometer Results

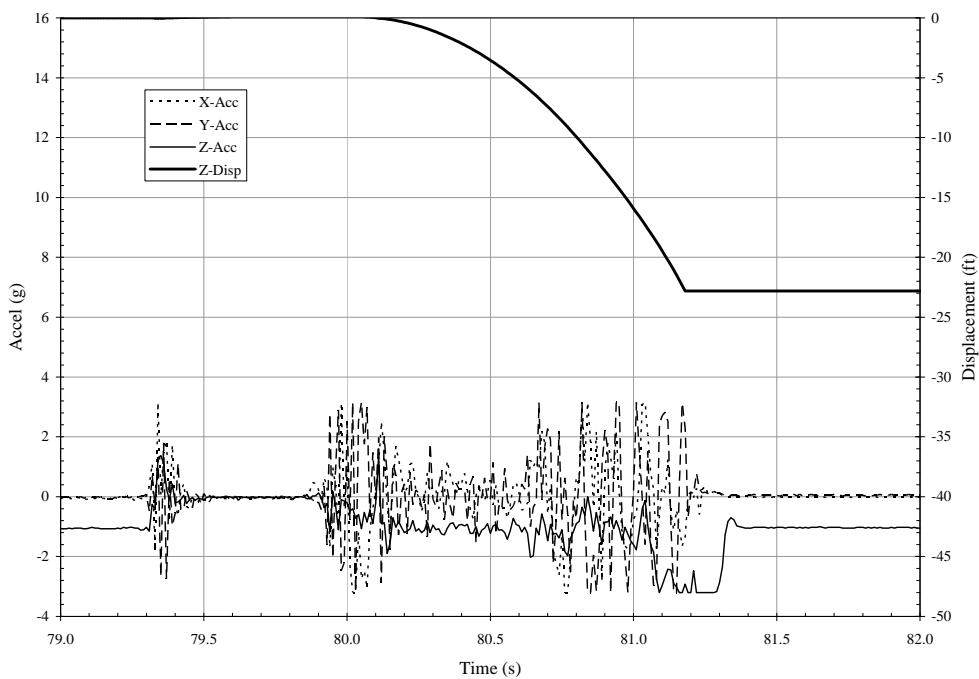
Oct 1 – Site Alpha – 21 ft water depth  
Clay Drops - 3 inch...108

Oct 15 – Sit Charlie – 21 ft water depth  
Clay Drops - 3 inch...115  
Site Bravo – 11 ft water depth  
Sand Drops - 3 inch...120

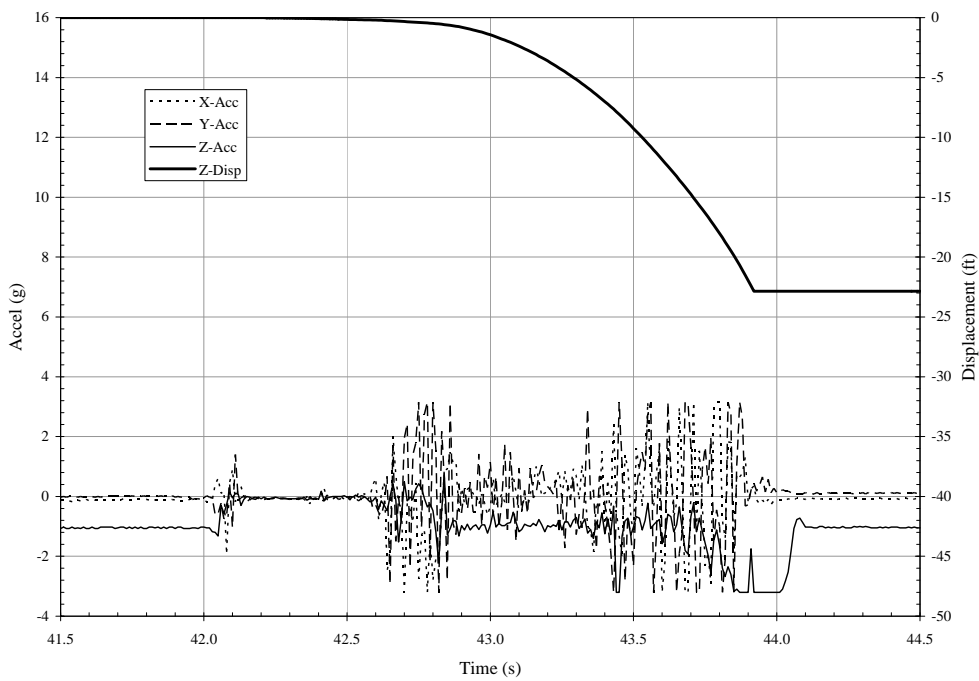
Feb 19 – Site Charlie - 21 ft water depth  
Clay drops - 9 inch...123  
Site Bravo - 10 ft water depth  
Sand Drops – 9 inch...125

Mar 31 – Site Charlie – 21 ft water depth  
Clay Drops - 9 inch ...126

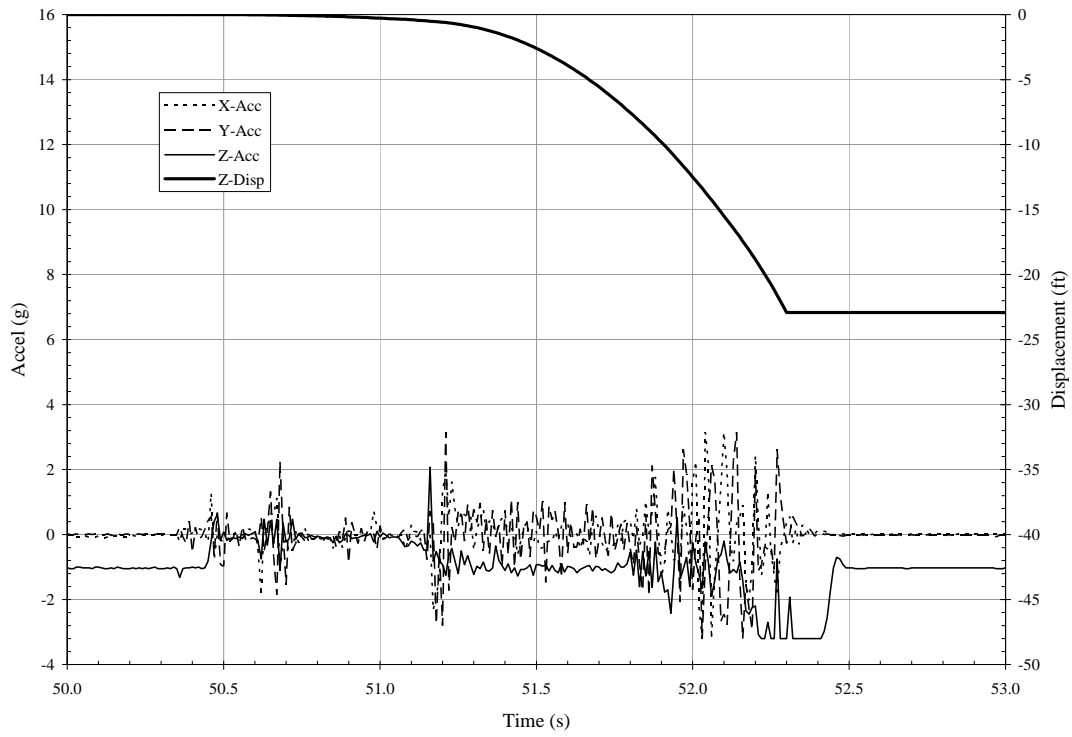
## Drop 1



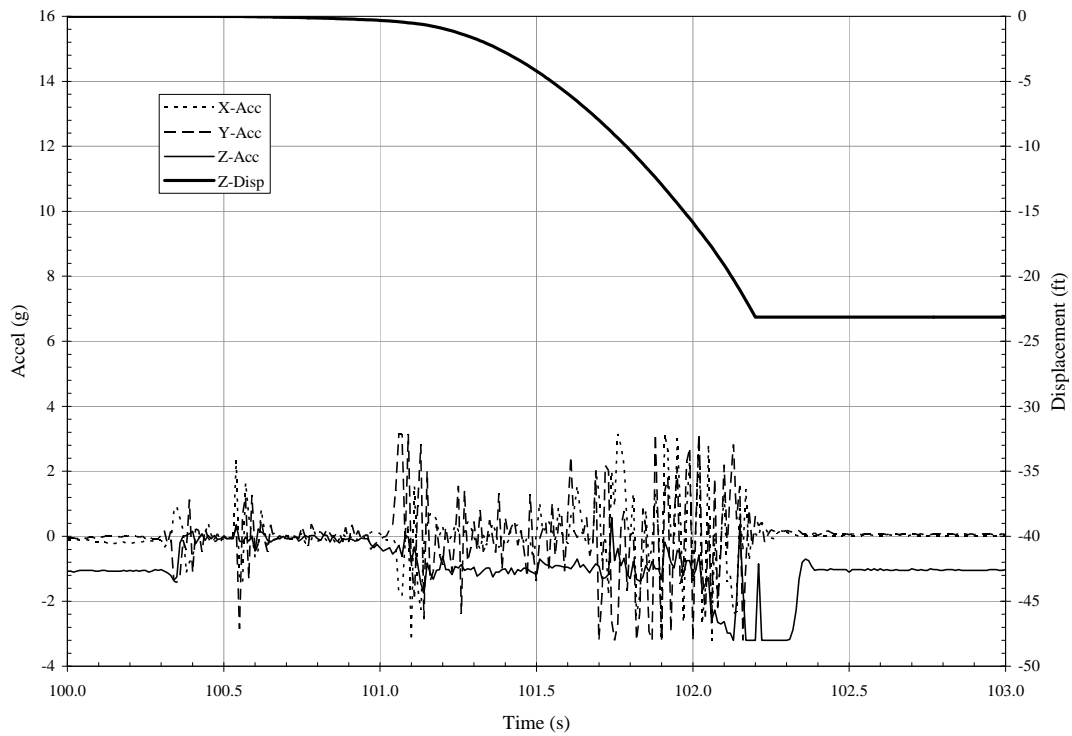
## Drop 2



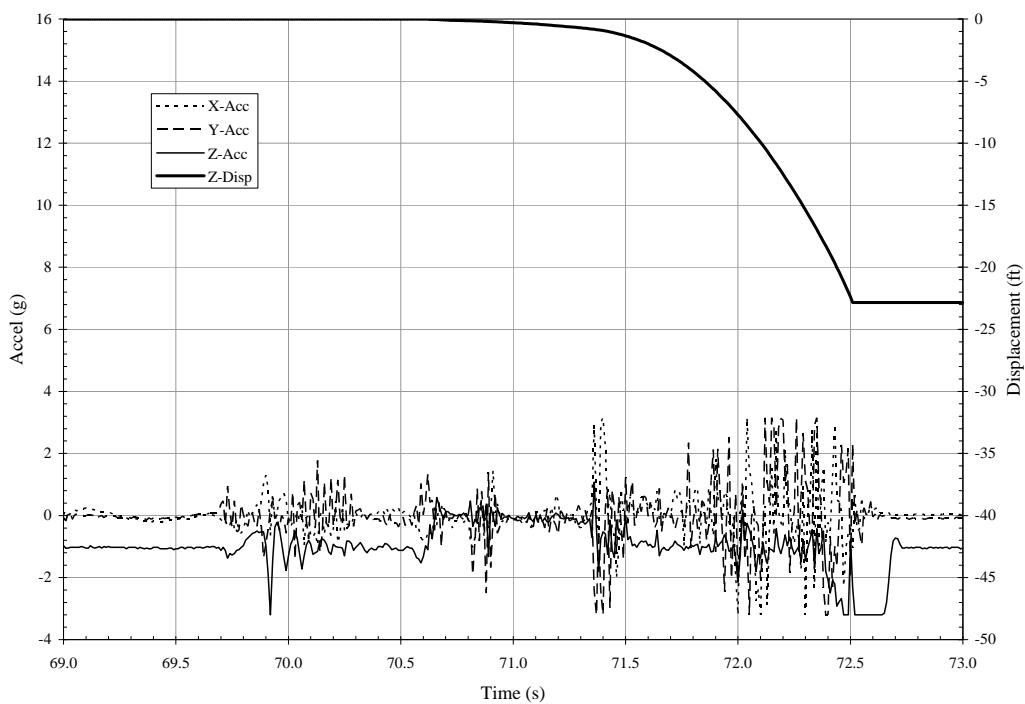
## Drop 3



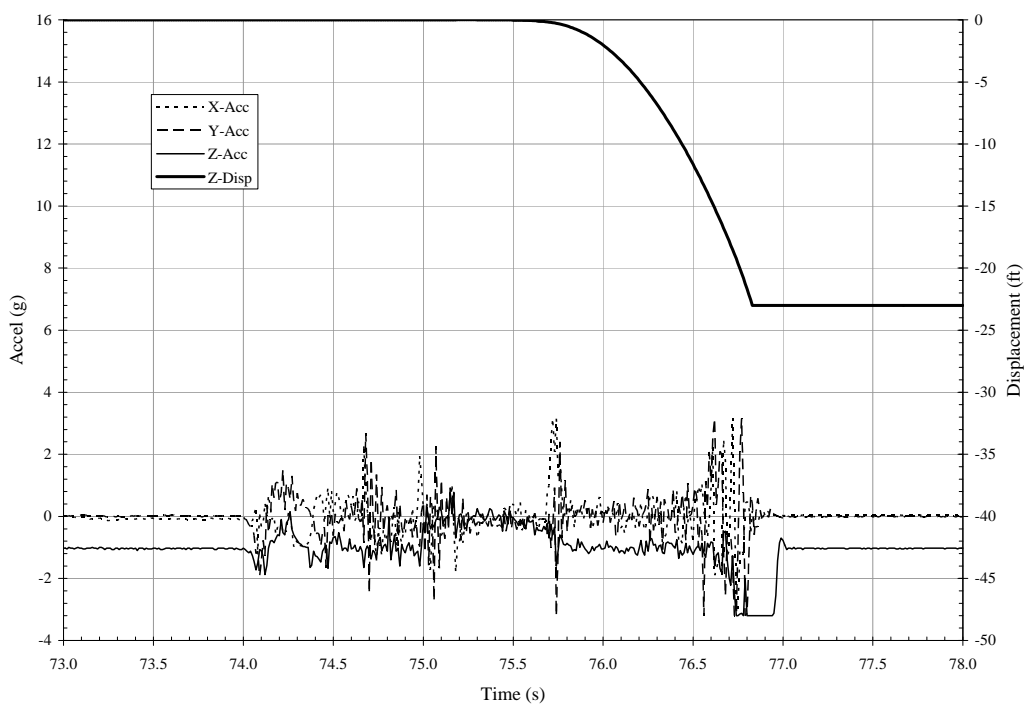
## Drop 4



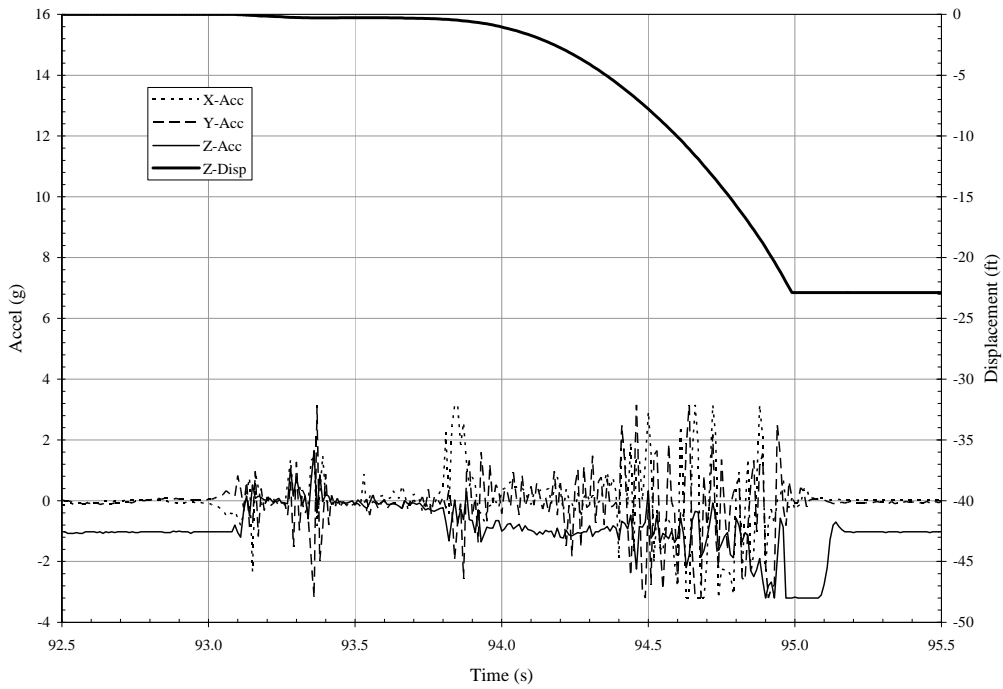
## Drop 5



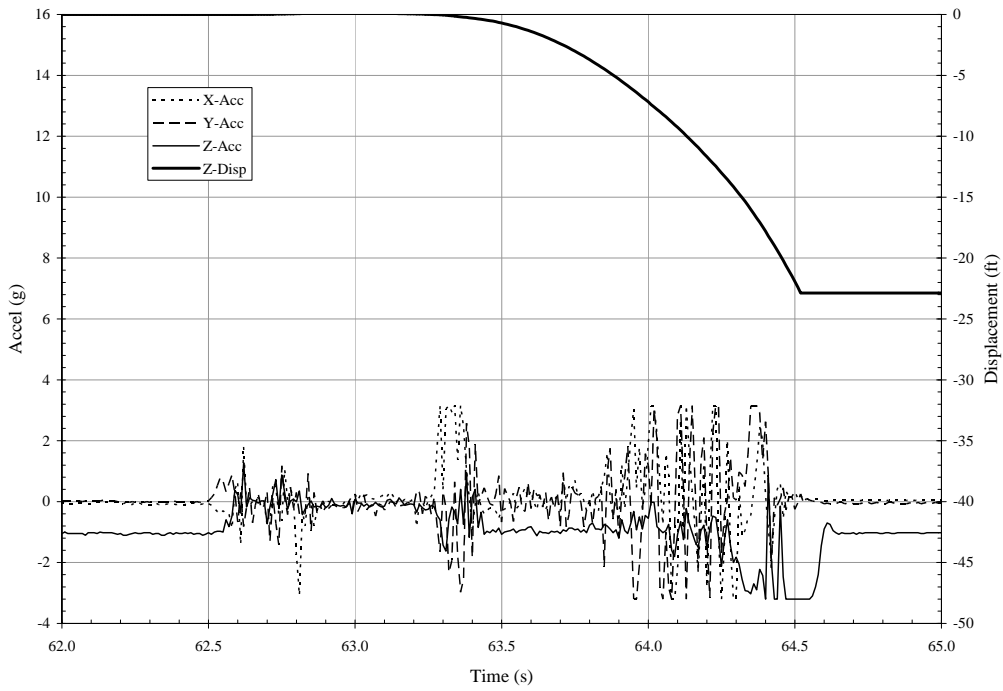
## Drop 6



## Drop 7

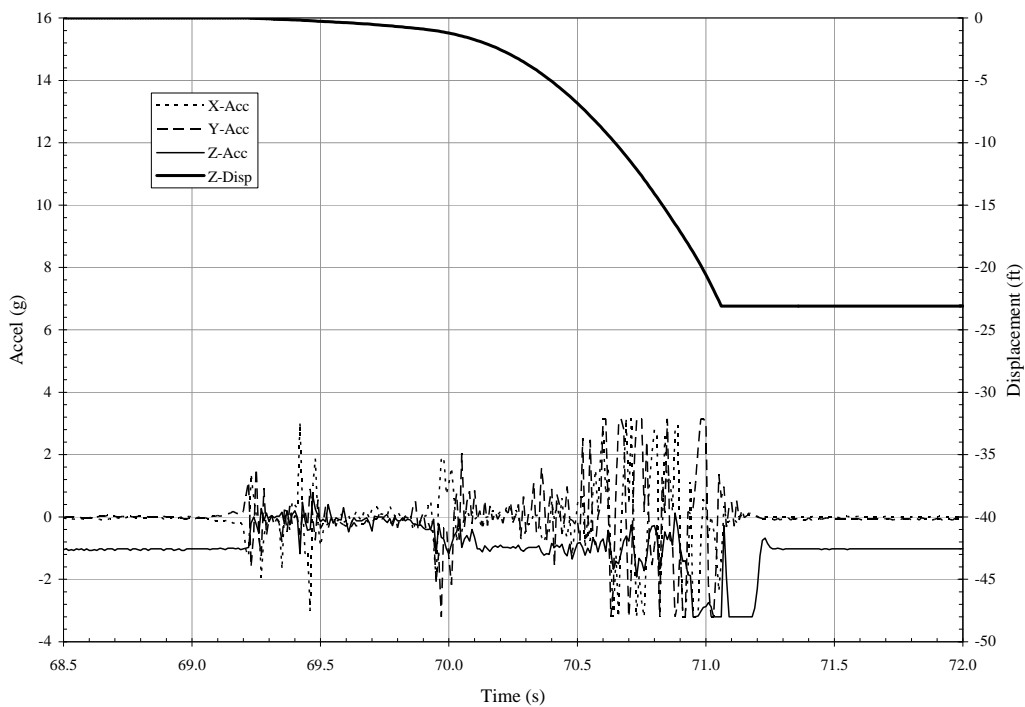


## Drop 8

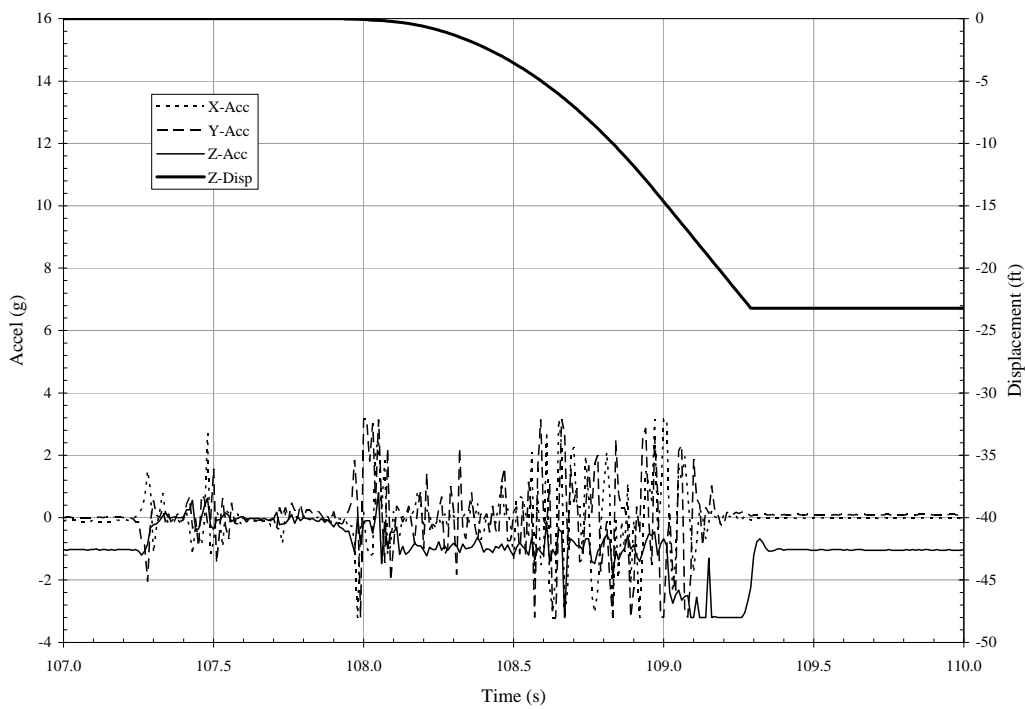




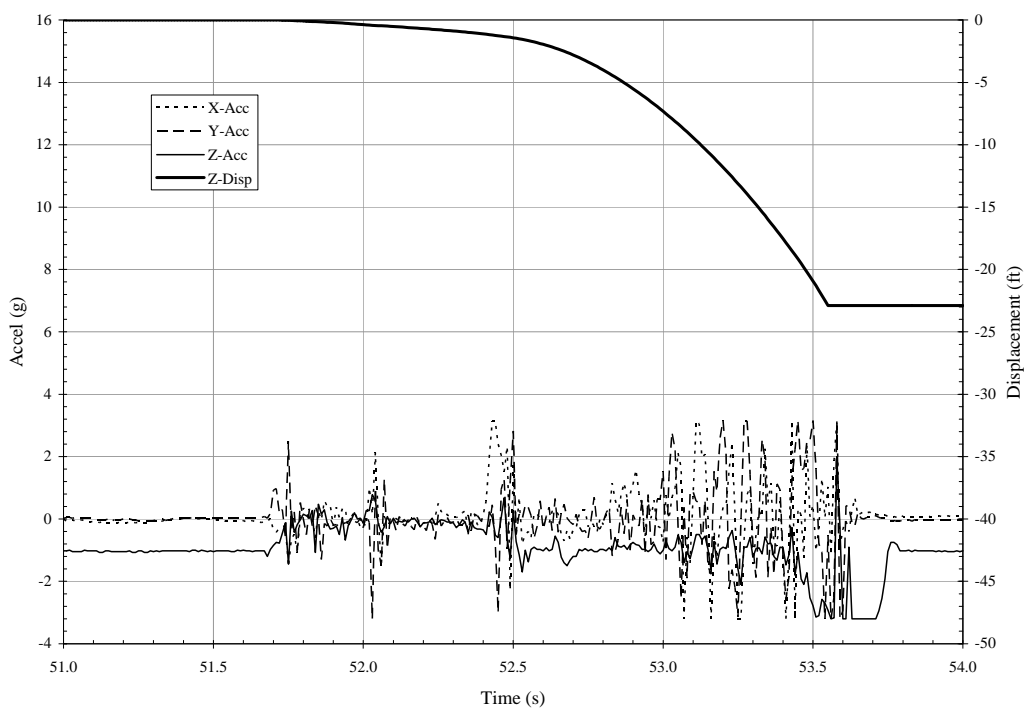
## Drop 9



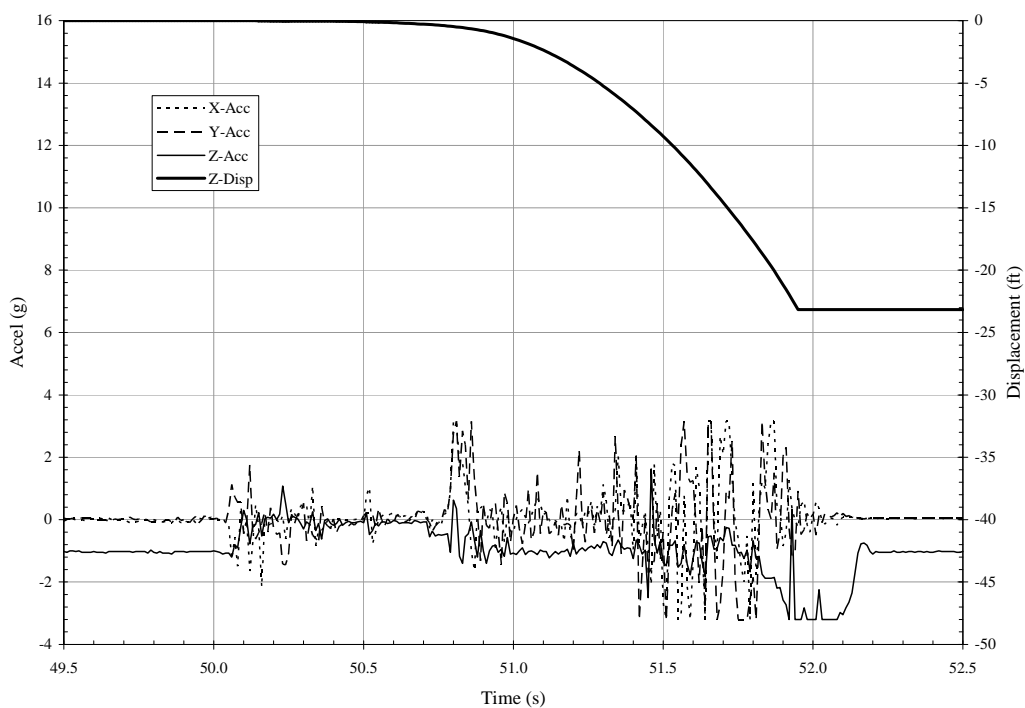
## Drop 10



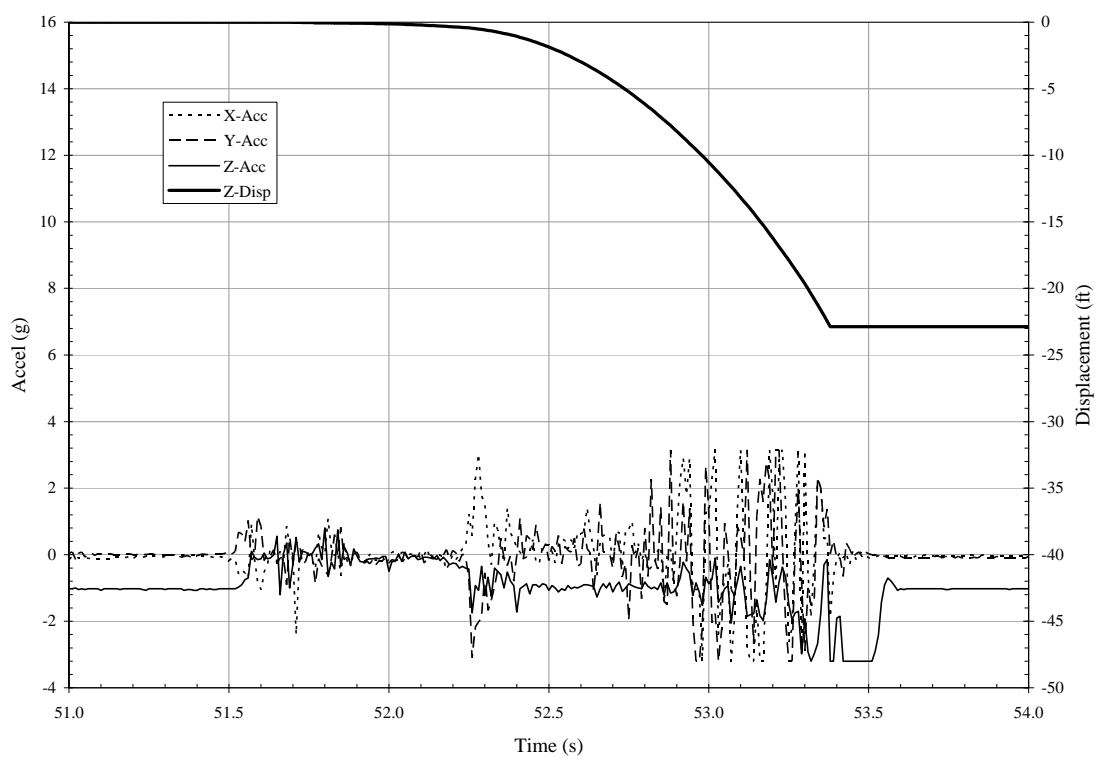
## Drop 11



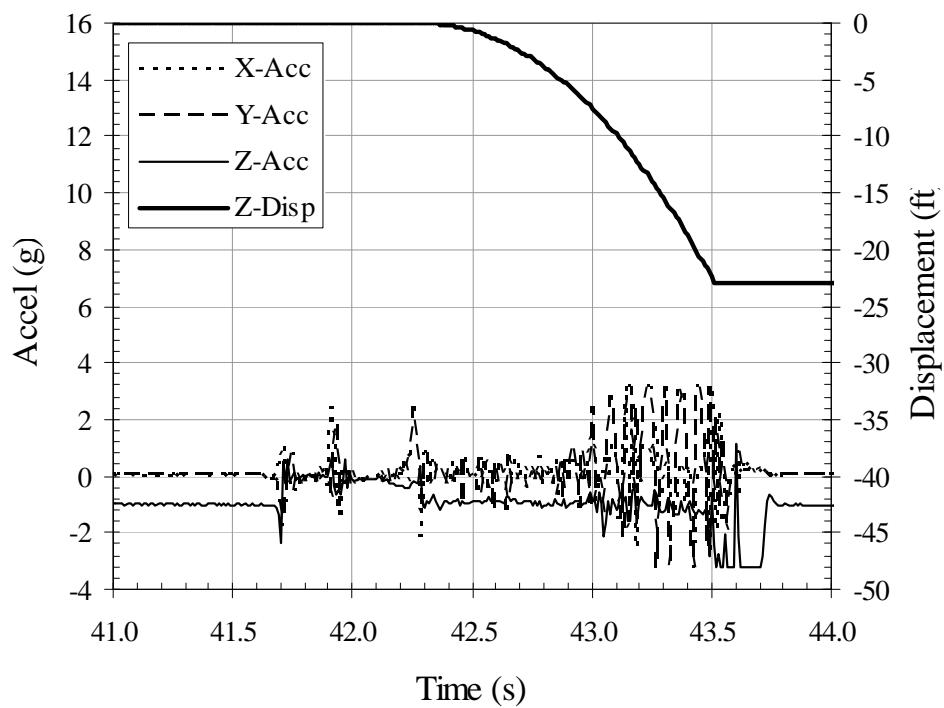
## Drop 12



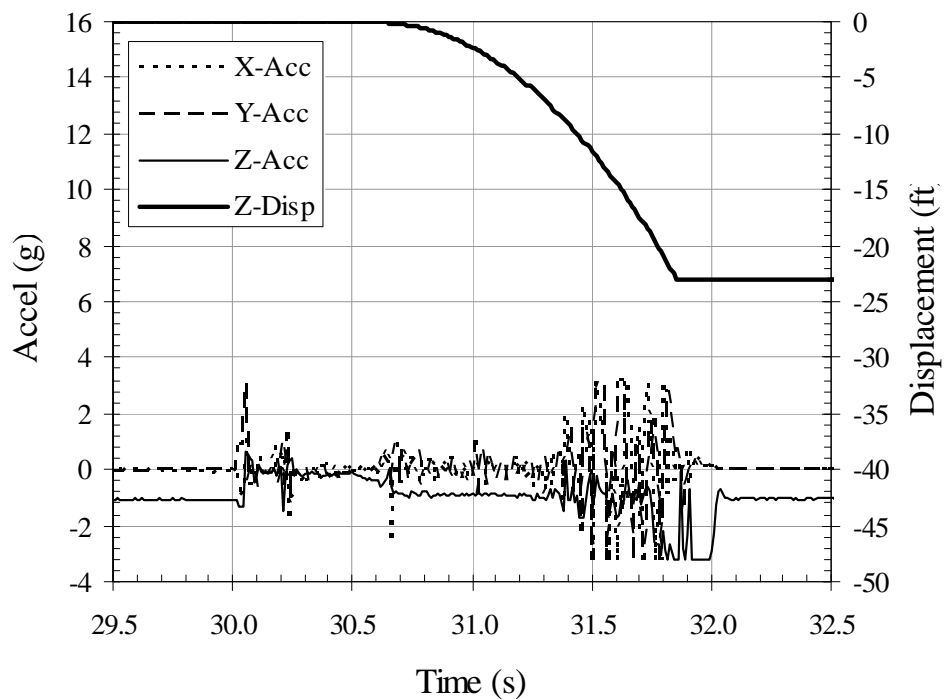
## Drop 13



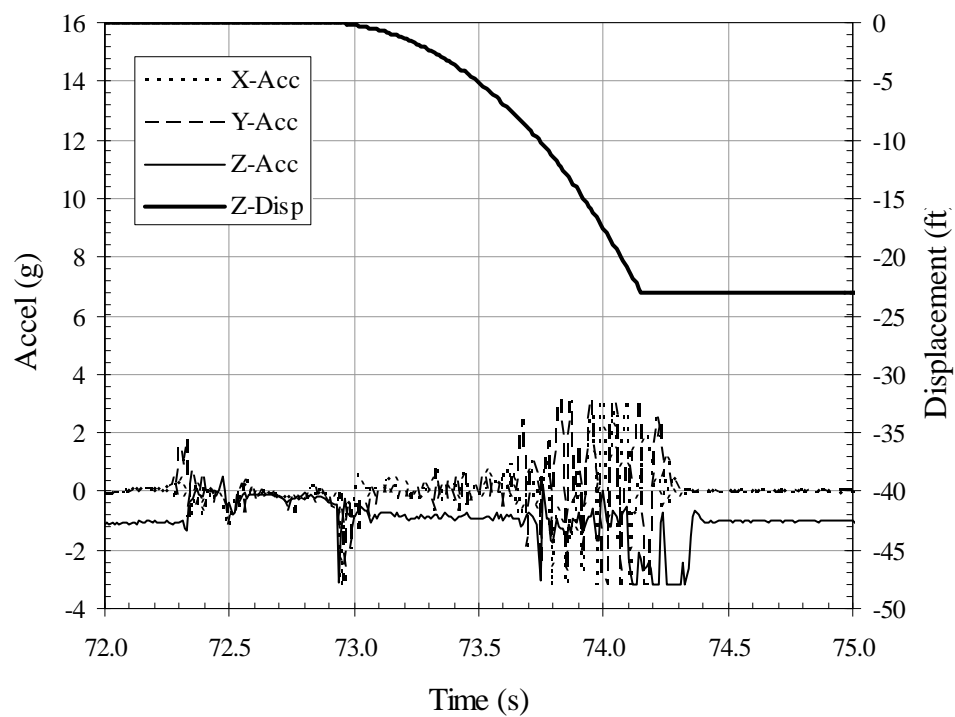
Drop 1



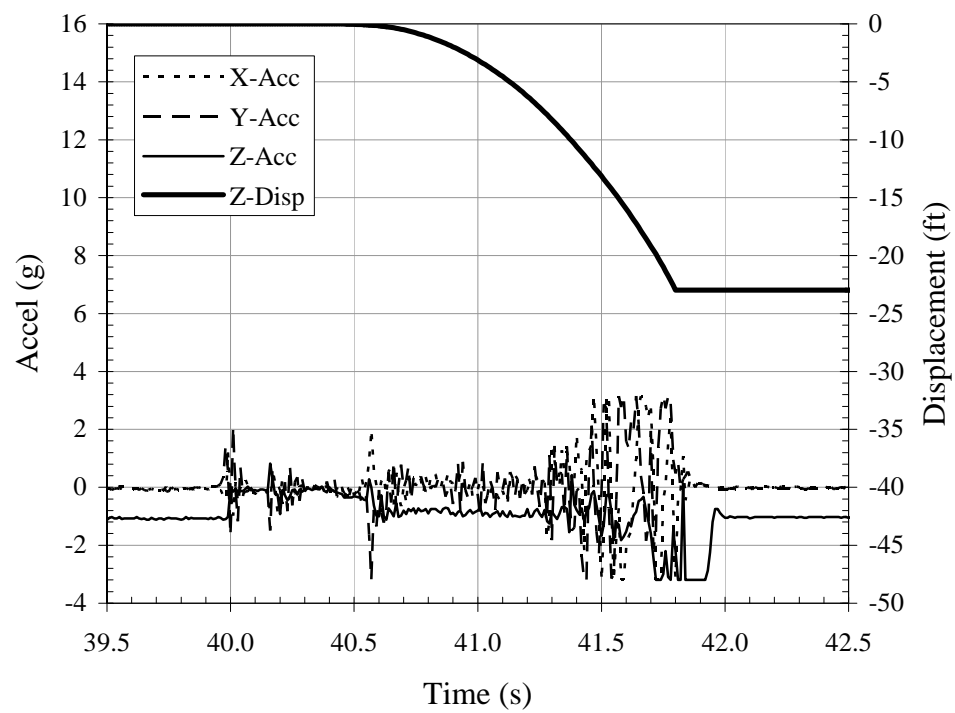
Drop 2



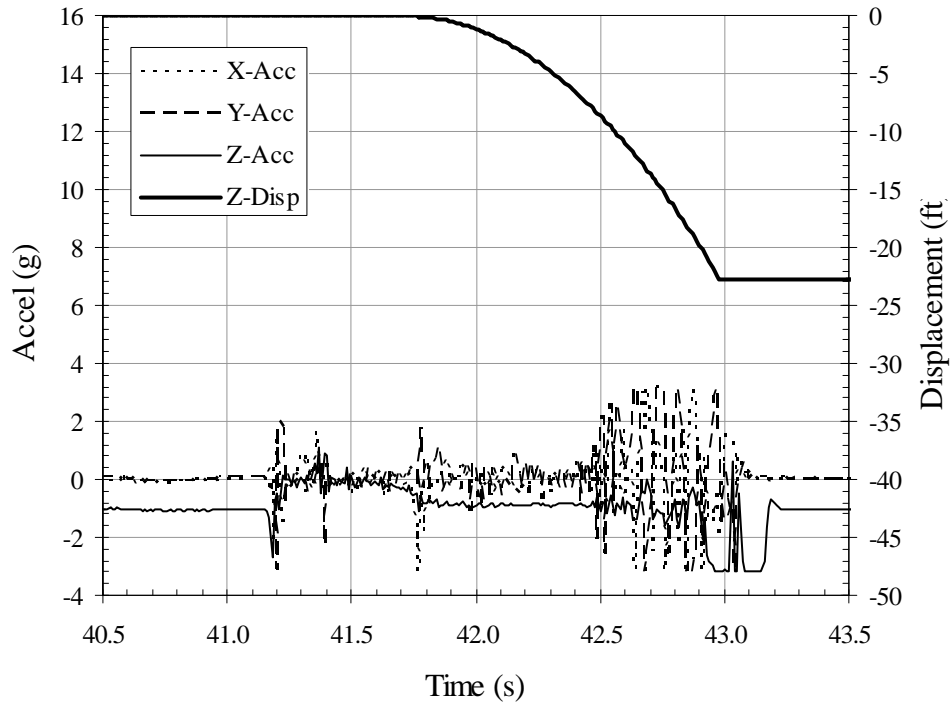
Drop 3



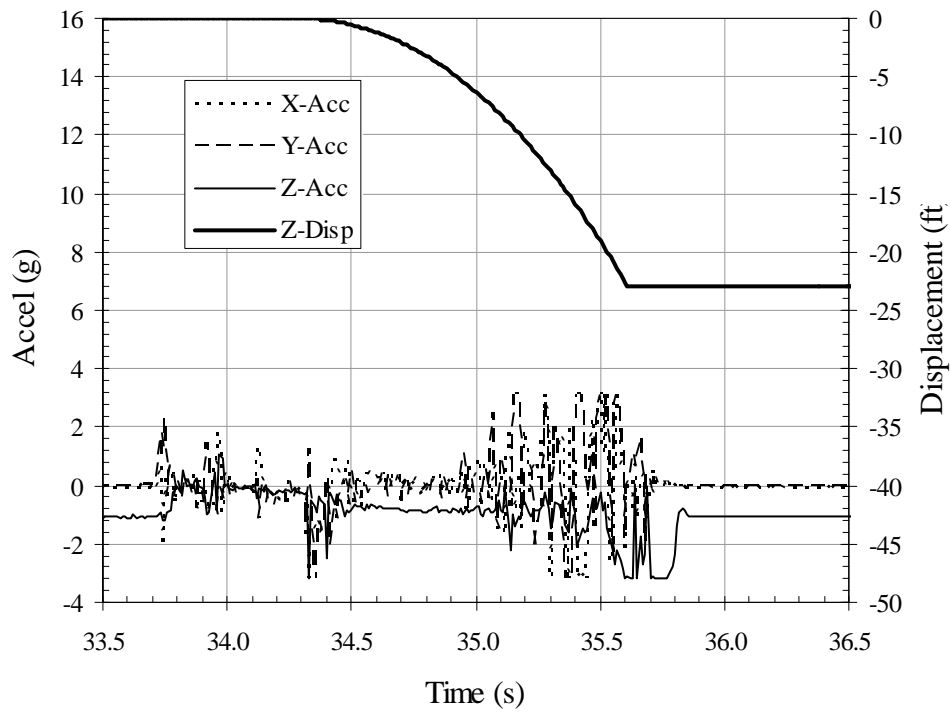
Drop 4



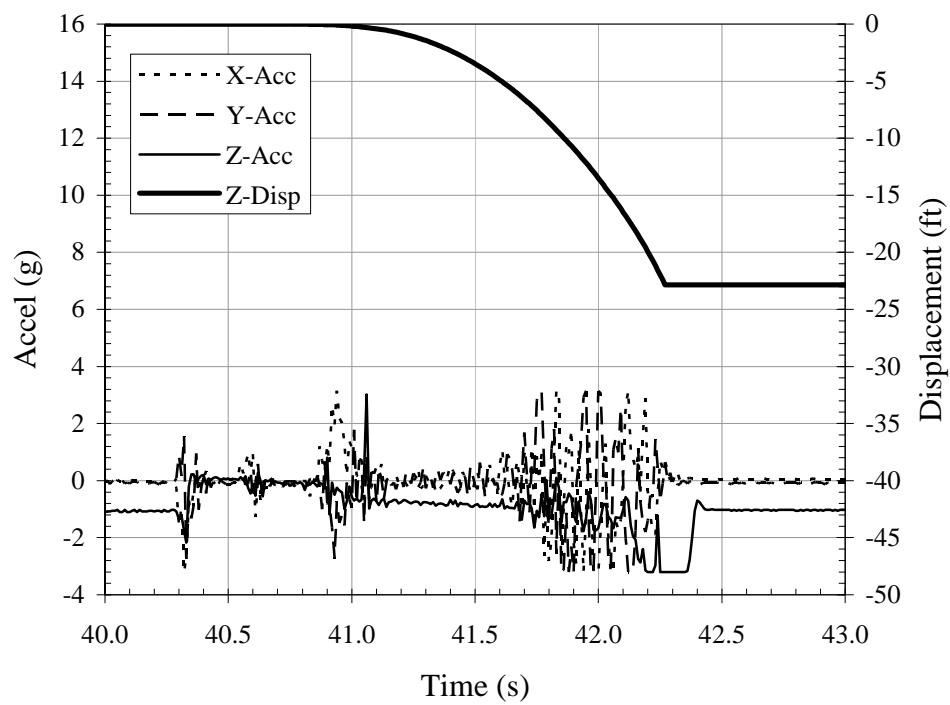
## Drop 5



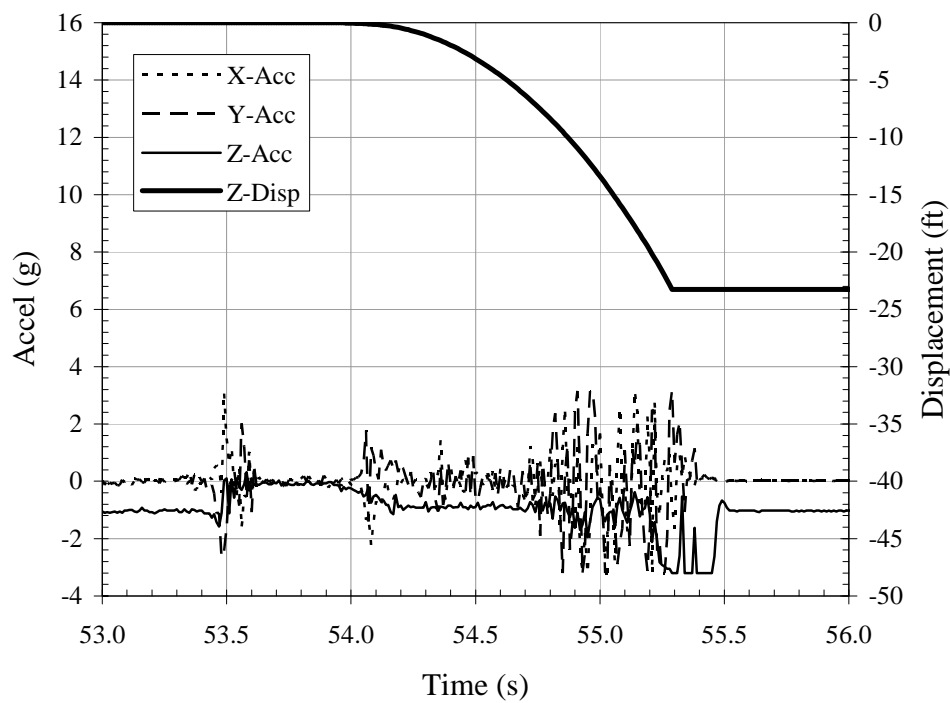
## Drop 6



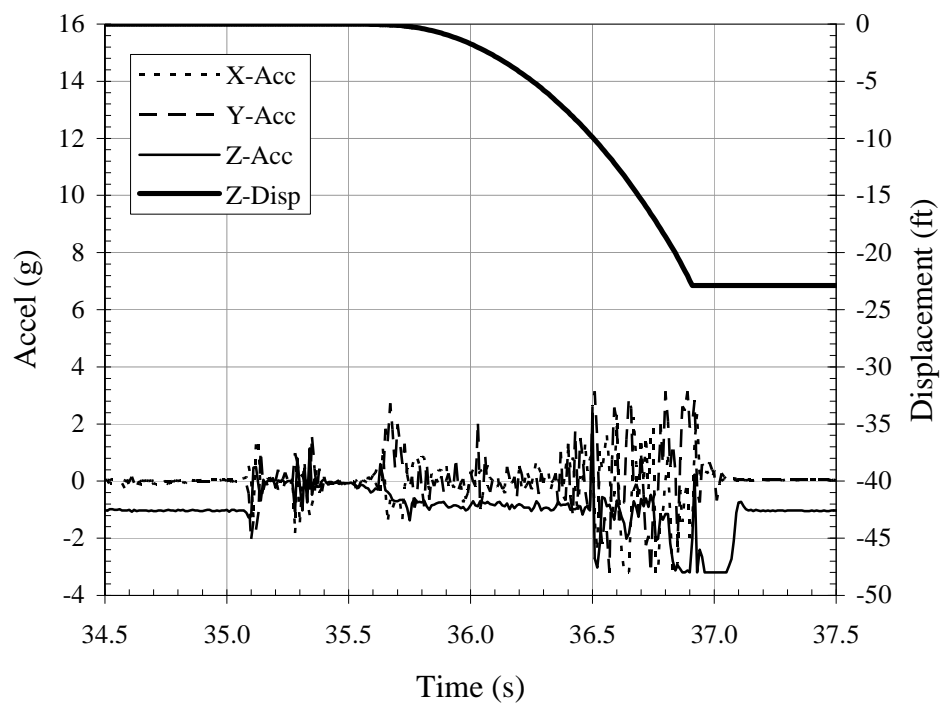
Drop 7



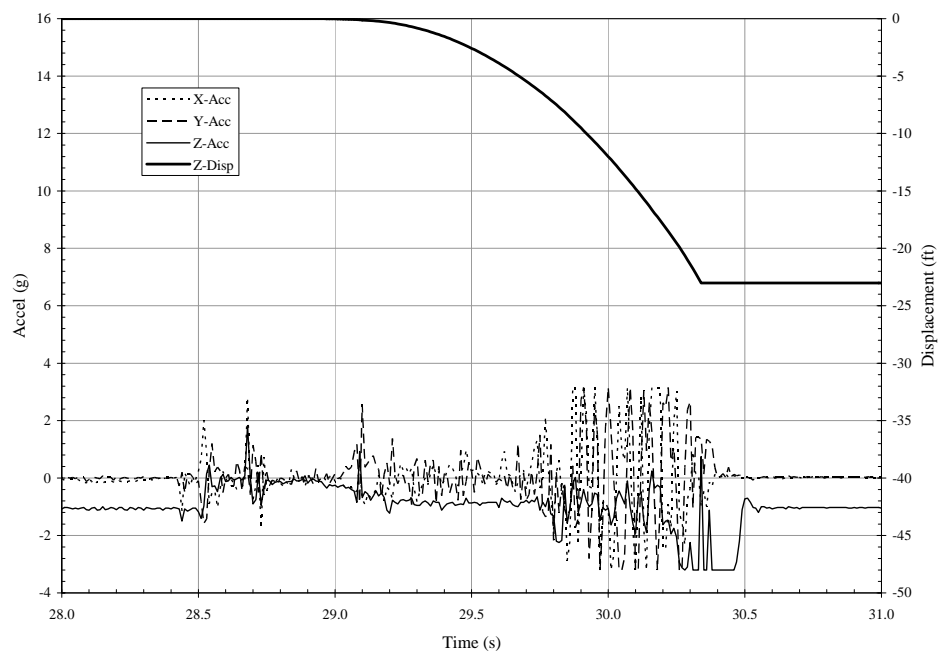
Drop 8



## Drop 9

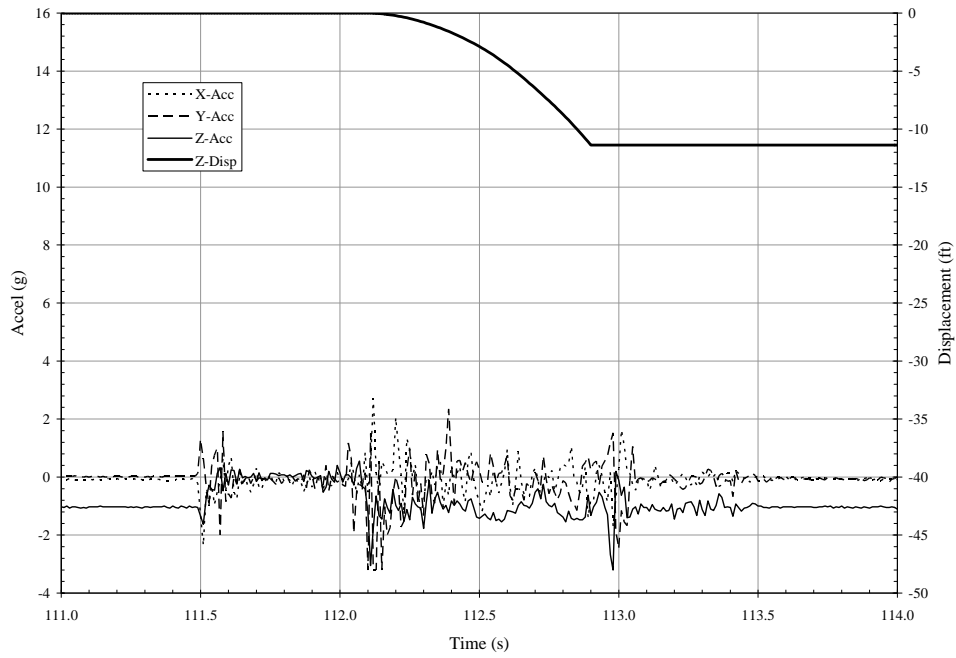


## Drop 10

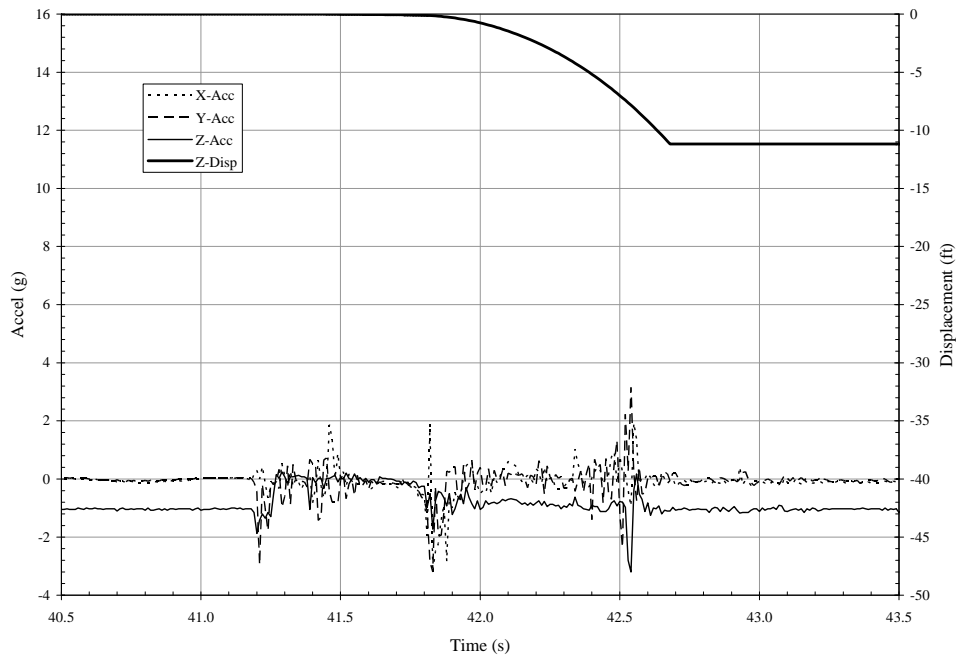




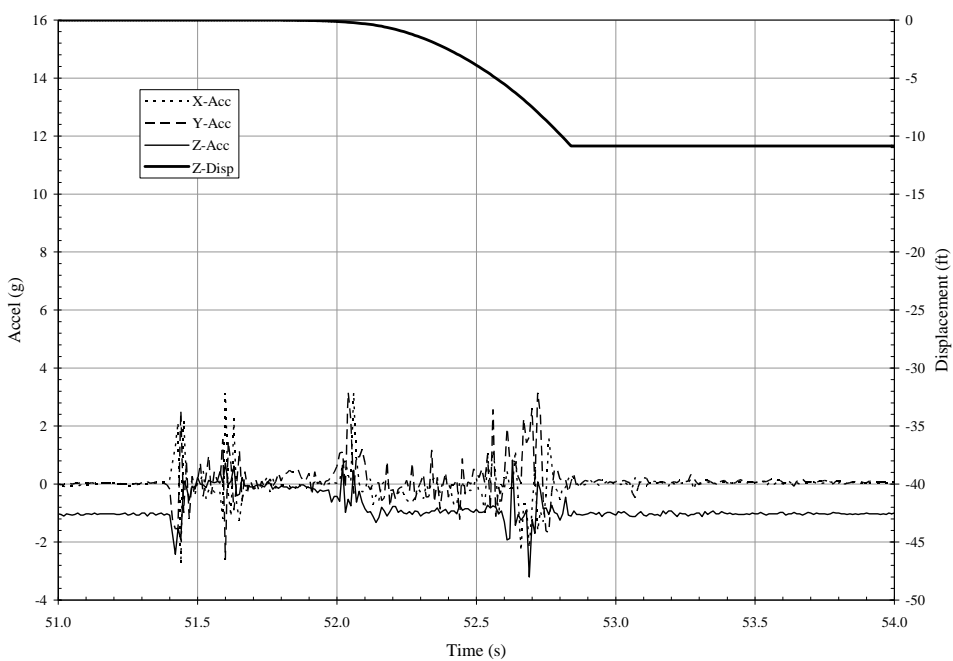
## Drop 1



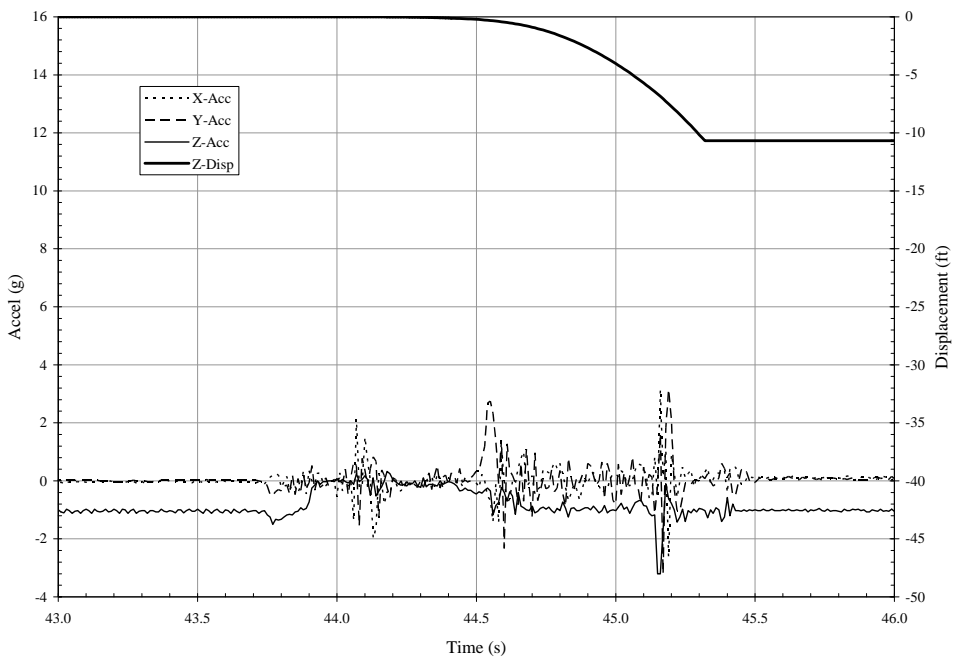
## Drop 2



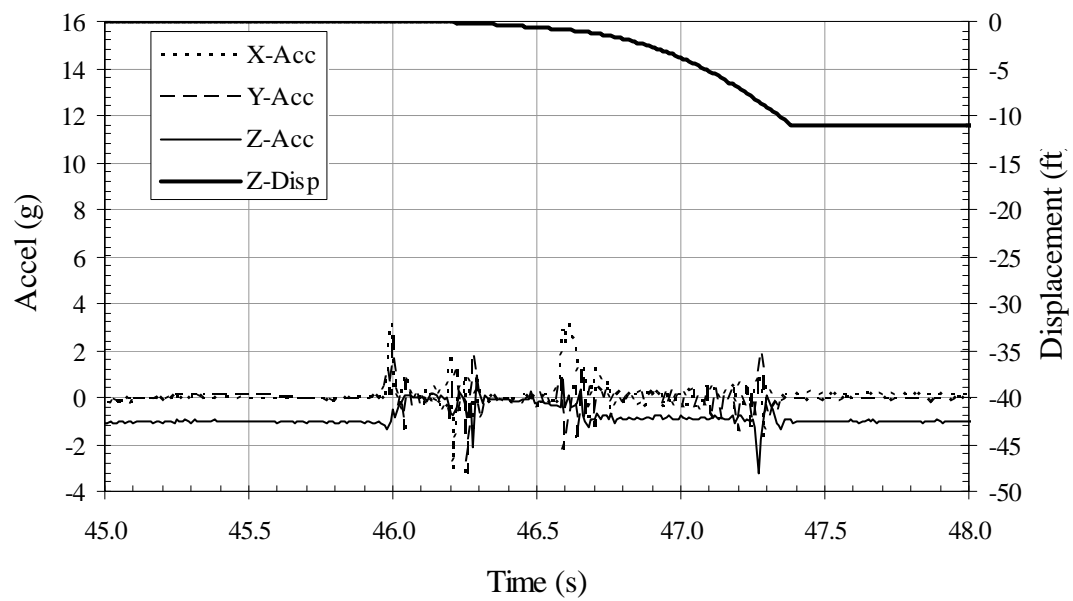
## Drop 3



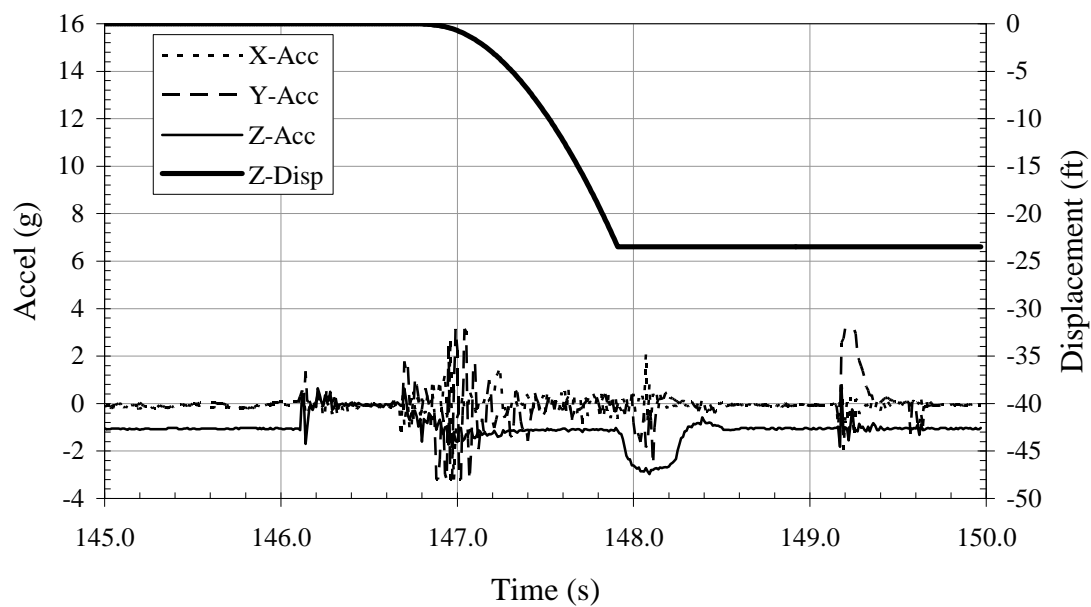
## Drop 4



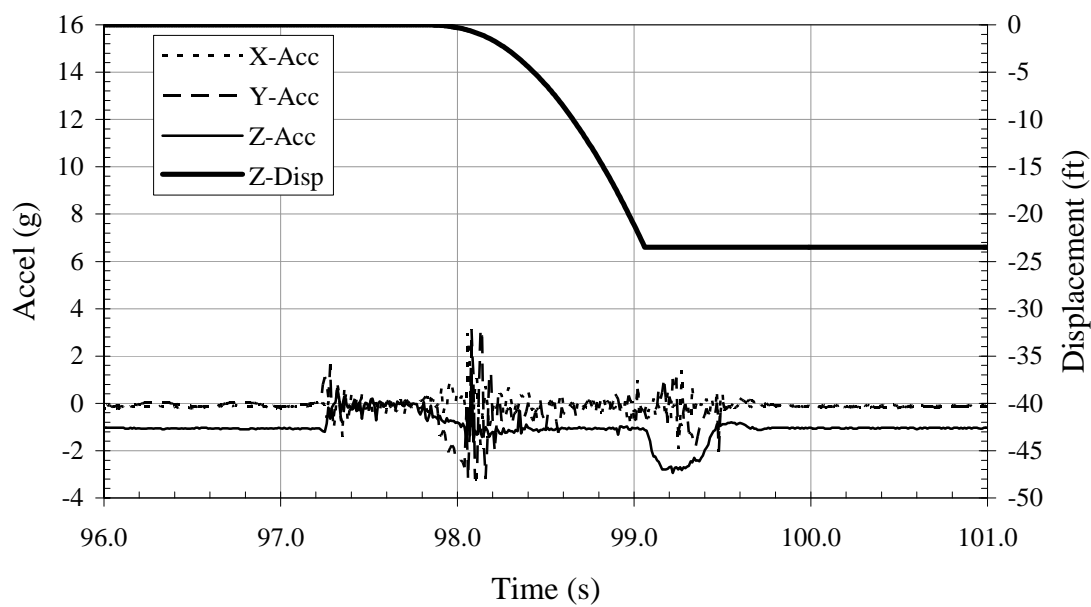
## Drop 5



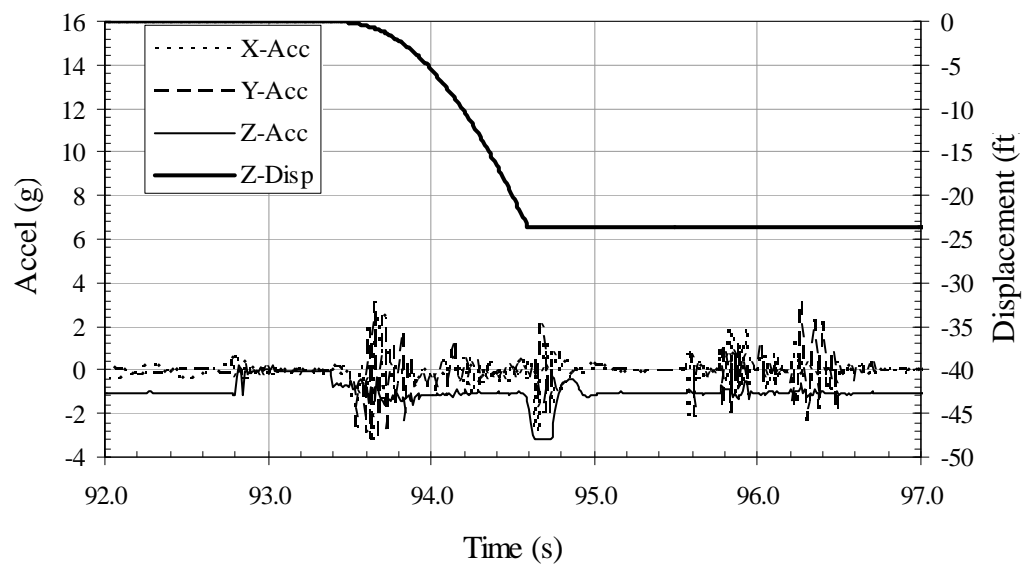
Drop 1



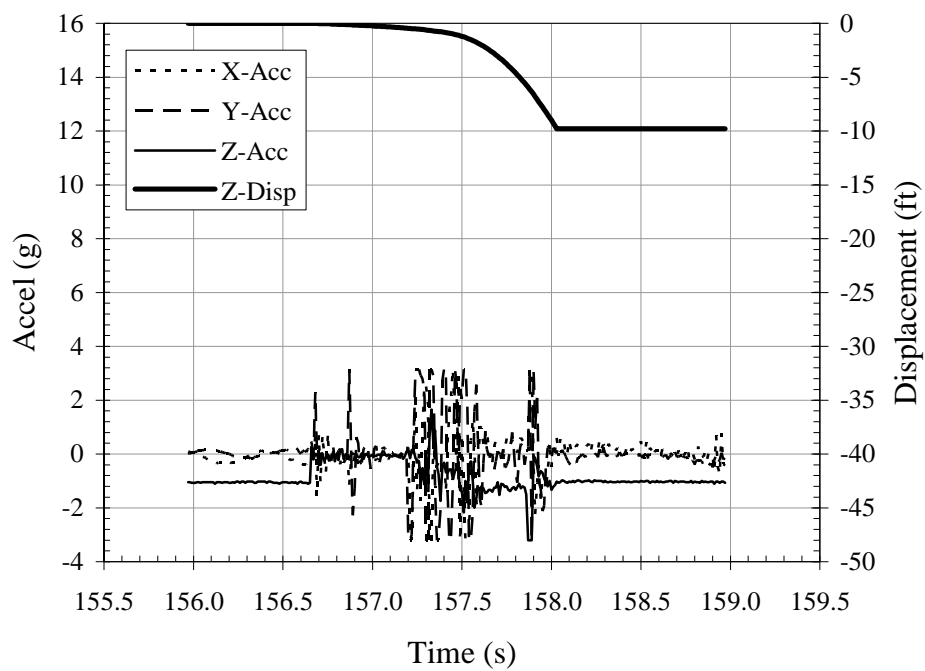
Drop 2



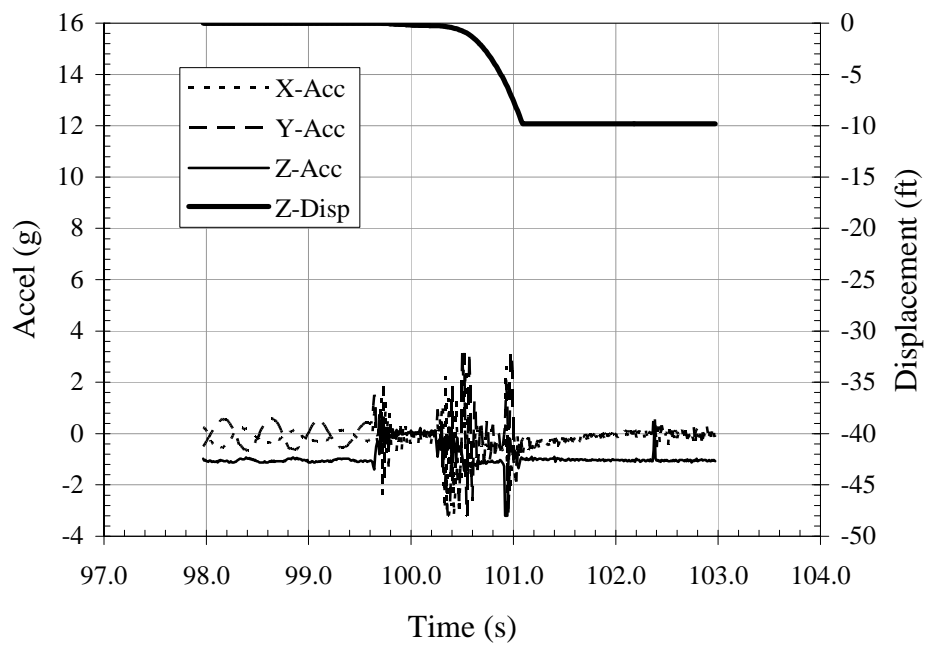
## Drop 3



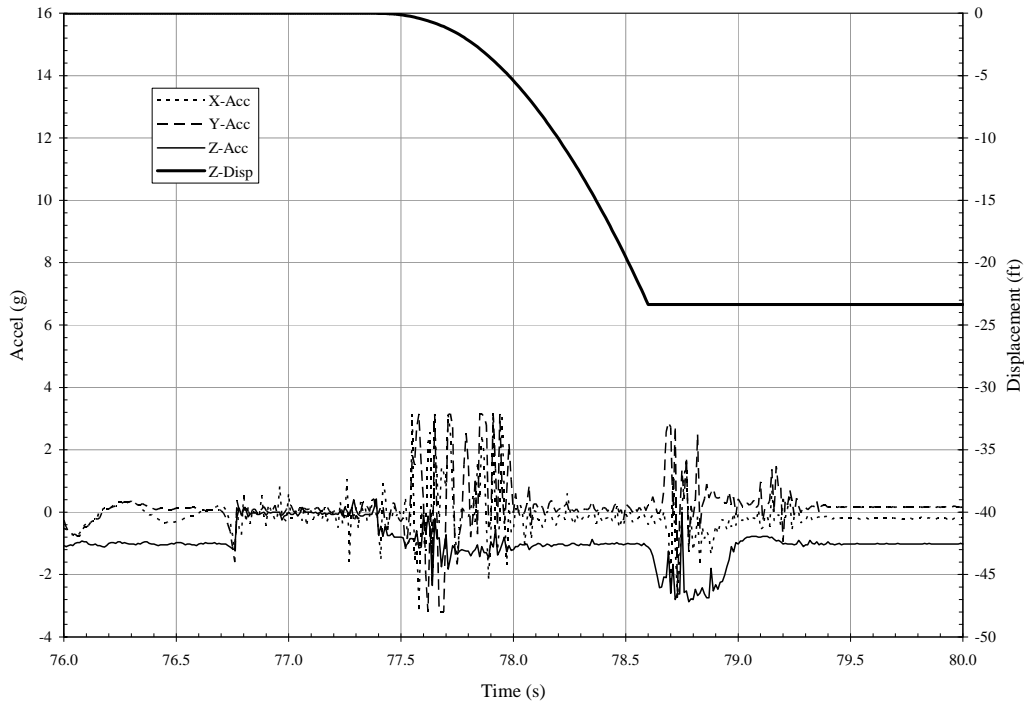
## Drop 1



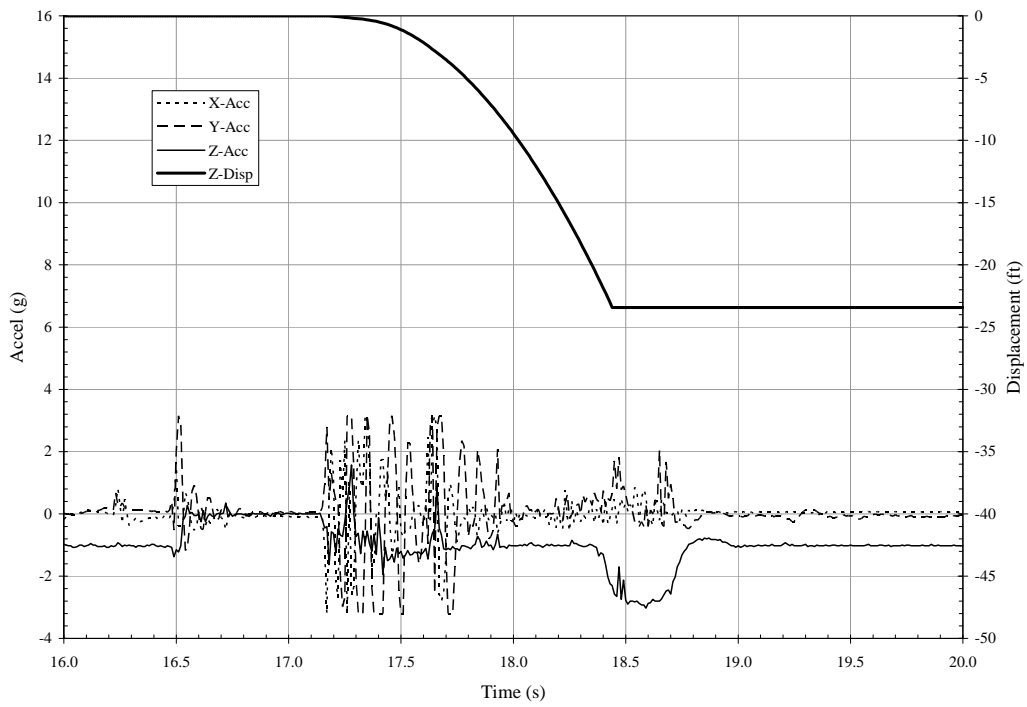
## Drop 2



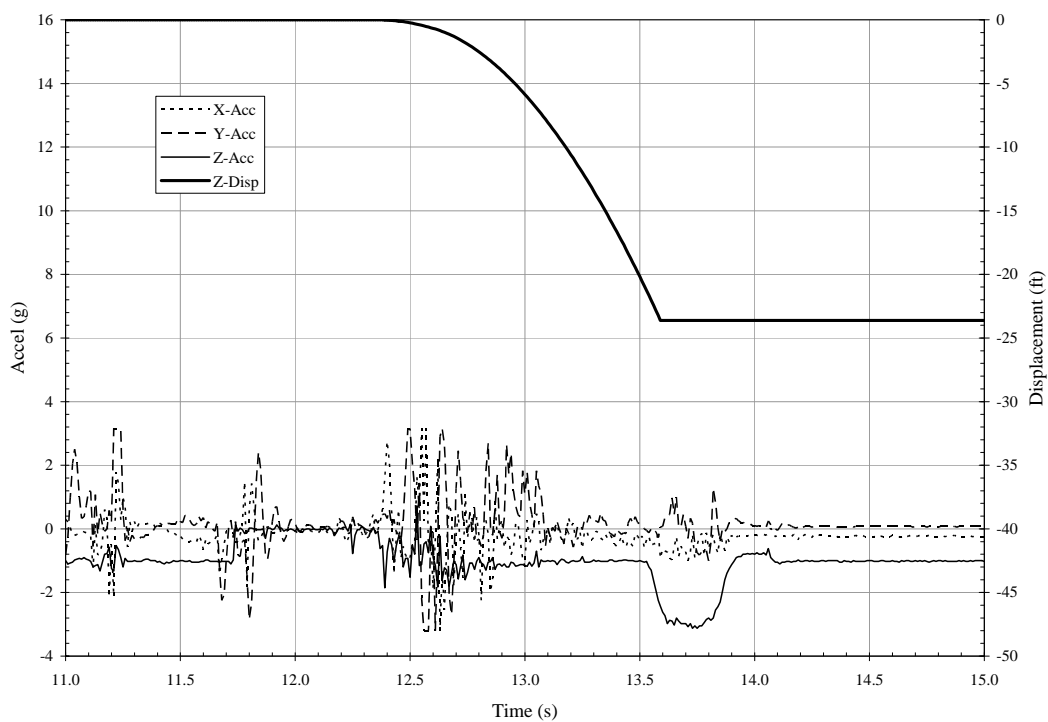
## Drop 1



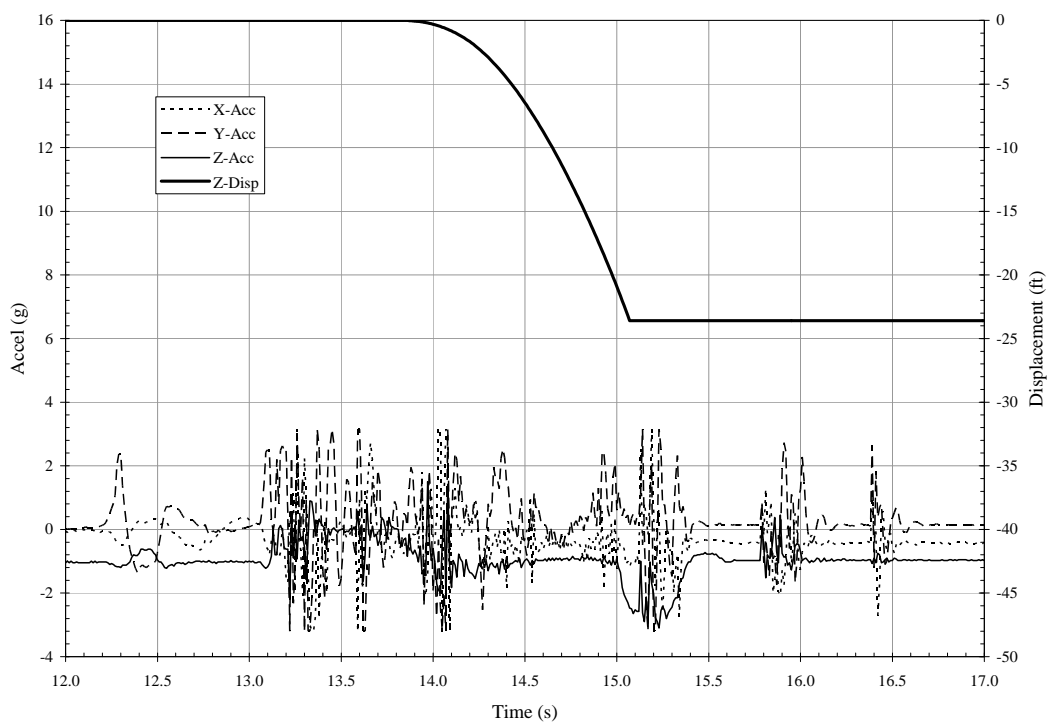
## Drop 2



## Drop 3

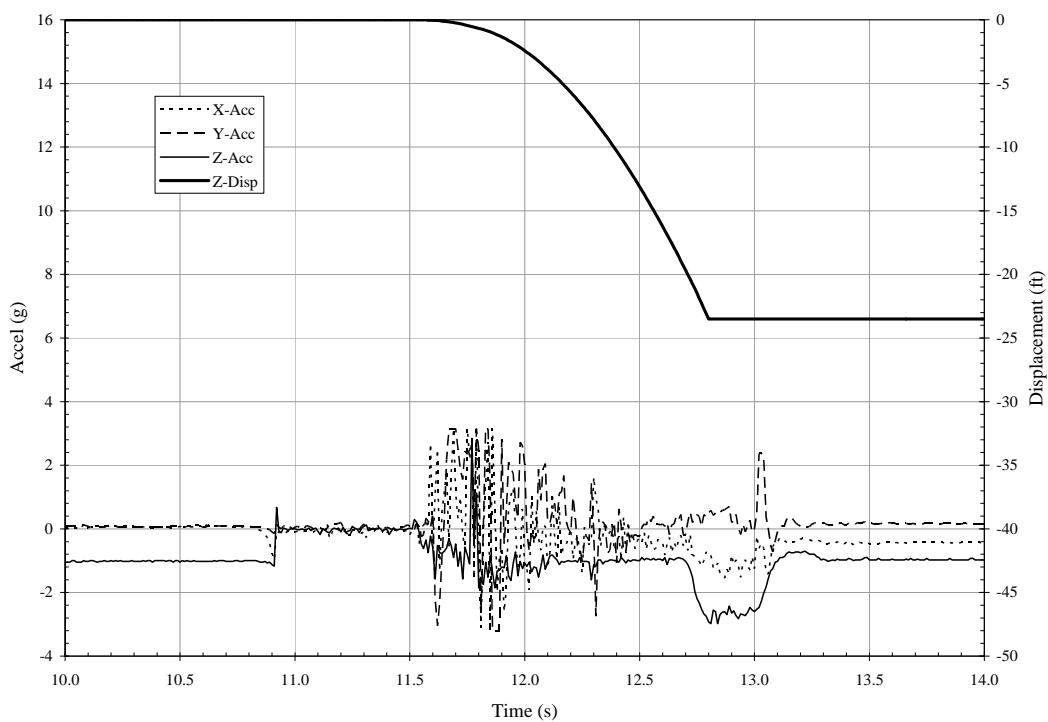


## Drop 4

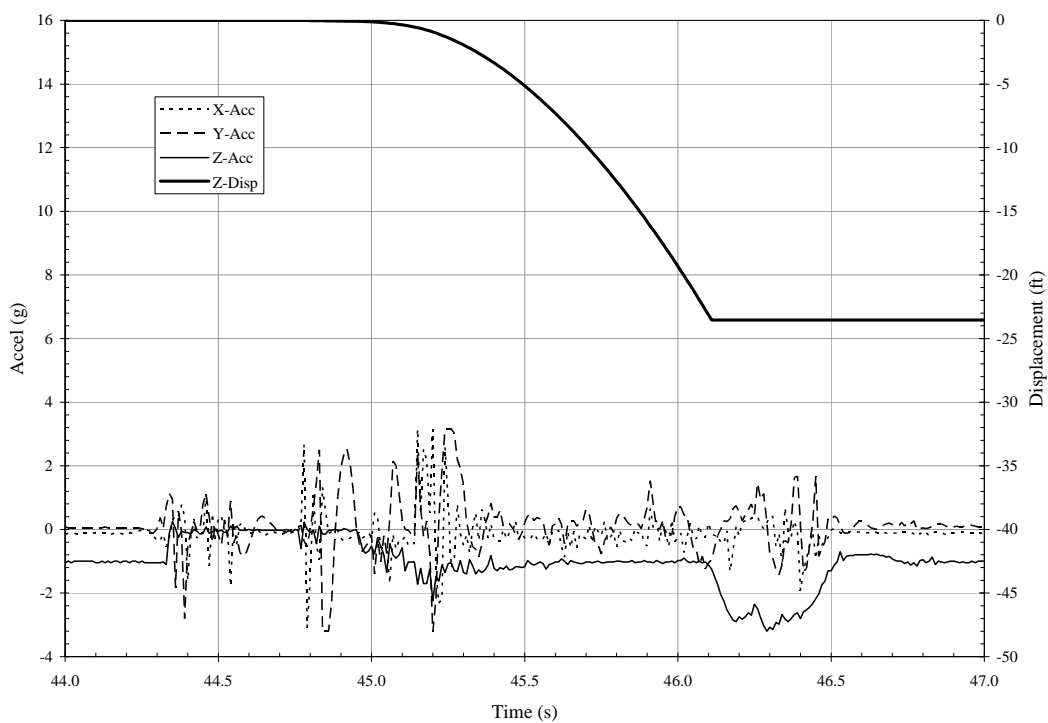




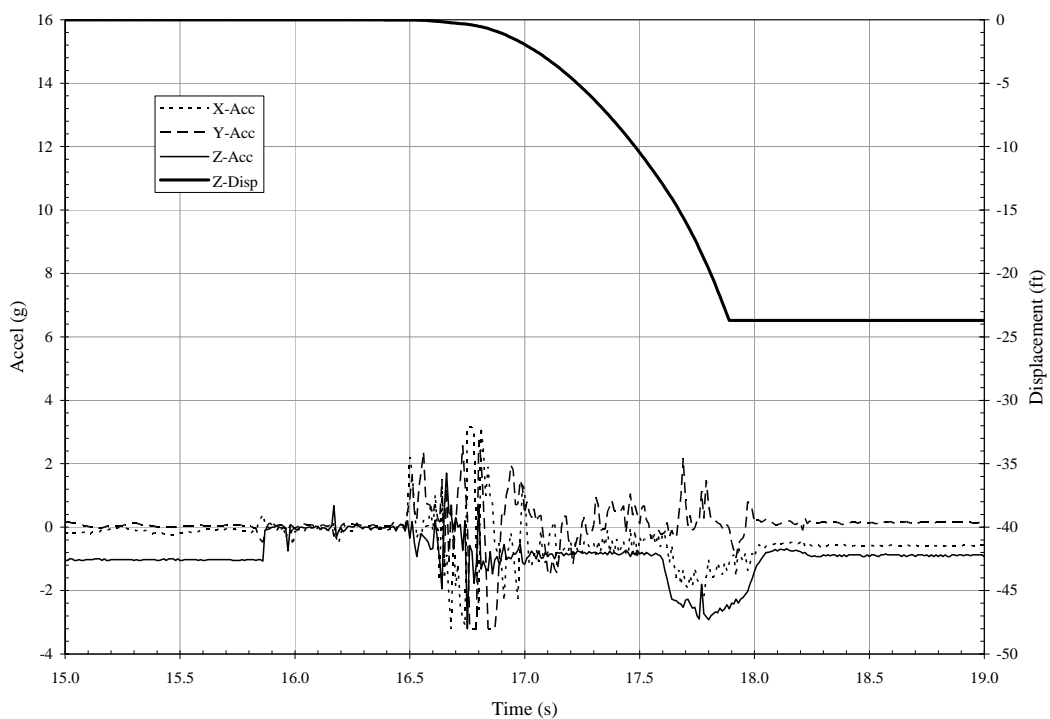
## Drop 5



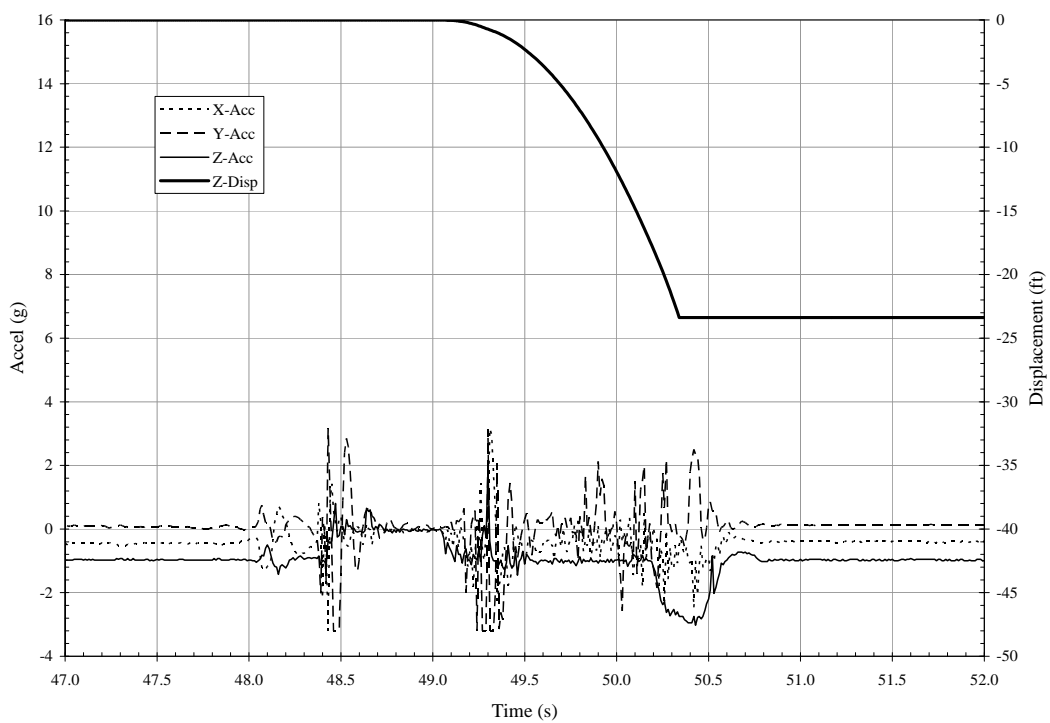
## Drop 6



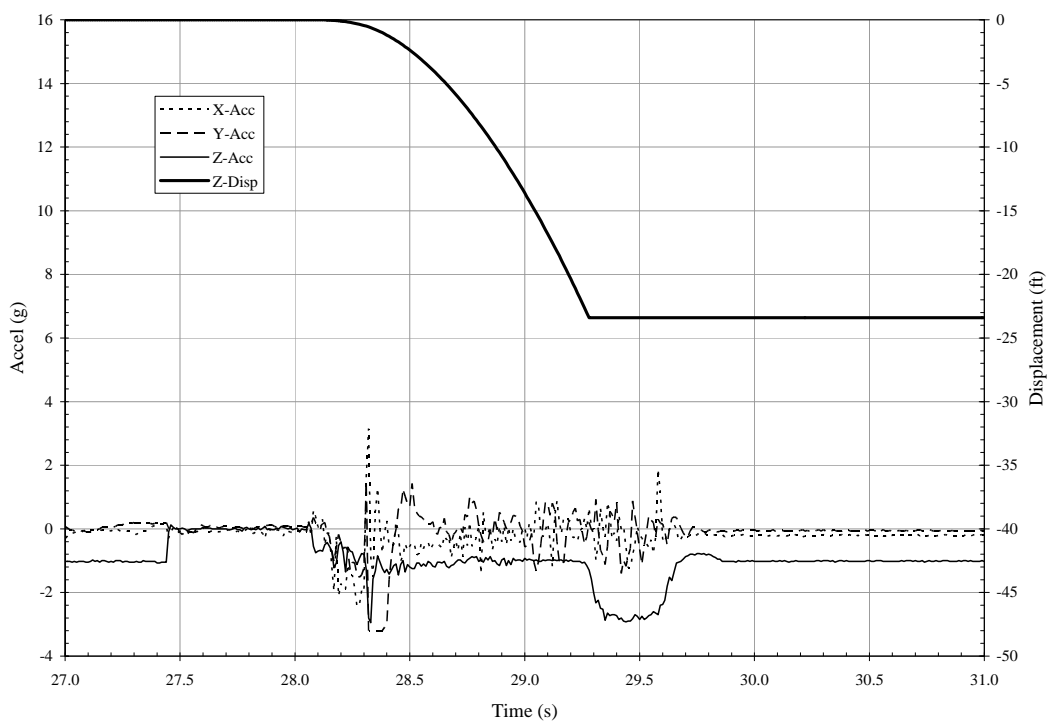
## Drop 7



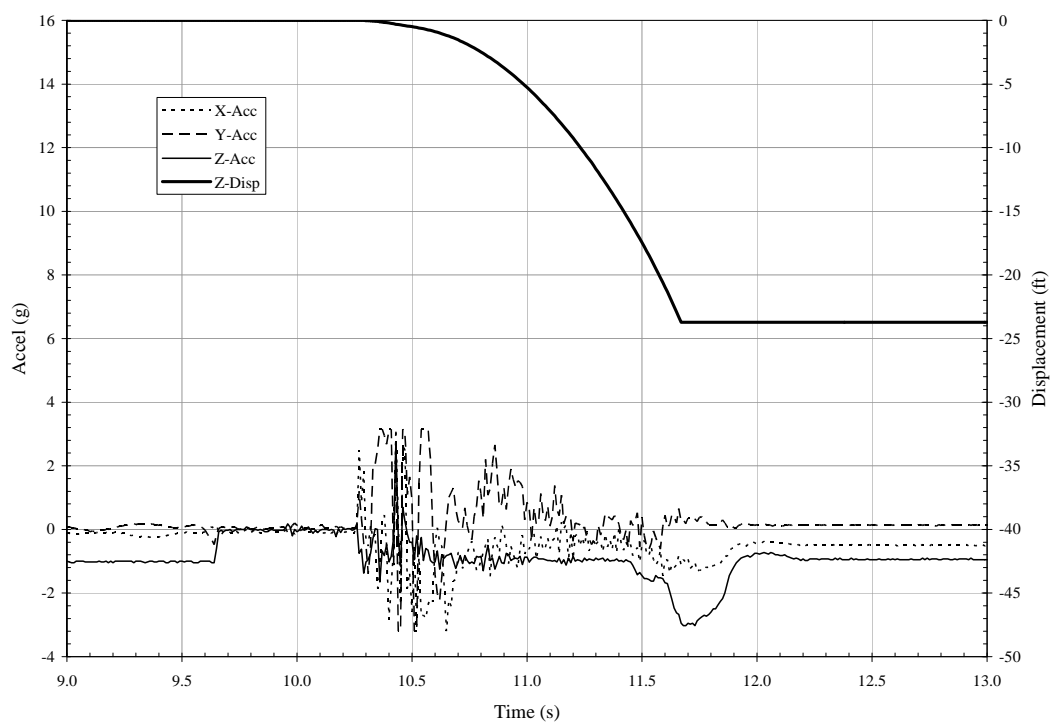
## Drop 8



## Drop 9



## Drop 10



# Appendix D

## Embedment Depth for Clay Drops

<b>1-Oct</b>	<b>Embedment Depth (ft)</b>	<b>in</b>		
Drop 1	1.81	21.72	<b>3 in Average Embedment Depth =</b>	1.97 ft
Drop 2	1.85	22.20		23.64 in
Drop 3	1.92	23.04		
Drop 4	2.14	25.68	<b>9 in Average Embedment Depth =</b>	2.53 ft
Drop 5	1.83	21.96		30.34 in
Drop 6	2.01	24.12		
Drop 7	1.89	22.68		
Drop 8	1.86	22.32		
Drop 9	2.10	25.20		
Drop 10	2.20	26.40		
Drop 11	1.88	22.56		
Drop 12	2.17	26.04		
Drop 13	1.88	22.56		
<b>15-Oct</b>				
Drop 1	1.86	22.32		
Drop 2	1.94	23.28		
Drop 3	2.06	24.72		
Drop 4	1.98	23.76		
Drop 5	1.84	22.08		
Drop 6	2.02	24.24		
Drop 7	1.85	22.20		
Drop 8	2.27	27.24		
Drop 9	1.89	22.68		
Drop 10	2.02	24.24		
<b>15-Feb</b>				
Drop 1	2.47	29.64		
Drop 2	2.50	30.00		
Drop 3	2.63	31.56		
<b>31-Mar</b>				
Drop 1	2.36	28.32		
Drop 2	2.42	29.04		
Drop 3	2.62	31.44		
Drop 4	2.59	31.08		
Drop 5	2.51	30.12		
Drop 6	2.54	30.48		
Drop 7	2.71	32.52		
Drop 8	2.39	28.68		
Drop 9	2.41	28.92		
Drop 10	2.72	32.64		

# Appendix E

## Strain rate constant calculations

Macros used in Excel to calculate strain rate constants...	134
Excel file used to calculate strain rate constants.....	135
Penetrometer Specifications used in Excel calculations...	136

Function Gamma(z)

'Specific weight of sediment as function of depth, z

Gamma = (20 + 0.2 \* z) + 64      'NC Clay, from Marine Geotechnical Handbook, Figure 2.2-4

End Function

Function Su(z)

'Undrained shear strength of sediment as function of depth, z

Su = (1 + 0.0033 \* 12 \* z) \* 144      'Normally-consolidated Clay, Table 5.3-2, MGT Hdbk  
Su = Su \* 0.5

End Function

Function SuSideAvg(z)

'Average shear strength as function of depth, z

N = 10

delz = z / N

For i = 1 To N

    SuSideSum = SuSideSum + Su(delz \* i)

Next i

SuSideAvg = SuSideSum / N

If z = 0 Then SuSideAvg = Su(0)

End Function

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
1		Drop Alt	21.0 ft		Diam:	3 in																
2		Weight:	21.1 lb		L <sub>nose</sub> :	3.25 in																
3		Wet Wt:	17.6 lb		L <sub>body</sub> :	33.4 in																
4		(m + a):	0.765 slugs		A <sub>drag</sub> :	7.1 in <sup>2</sup>			S <sub>e</sub> *:	4												
5		E <sub>impact</sub> :	203.5 ft-lb		A <sub>nose</sub> :	7.1 in <sup>2</sup>			C <sub>e</sub> :	4												
6		E <sub>soil</sub> :	215.2 ft-lb		C <sub>drag</sub> :	0.50			C <sub>e</sub> :	0.11												
7		P <sub>nose</sub> :	12.1 psi		C <sub>added, in</sub> :	1.00			St:	2												
8		Max g:	6.6 g's		P <sub>penetrator</sub> :	1.9879 slug/cuft			Max Se:	5.000												
9		Embed:	20.4 in		V <sub>impact</sub> :	23.1 fps																
10		Exposed:	16.2 in		V <sub>rem</sub> :	26.9 fps																
11																						
12	Time	Altitude	Density	Distance	Velocity	Drag	Acceleration							Nt		Soil Wt	Wbi	Z <sub>embed</sub>	A <sub>nose</sub>	A <sub>side</sub>	Q <sub>nose</sub>	F <sub>side</sub>
13	sec	ft	slug/cuft	ft	ft/s	lb	ft/sec <sup>2</sup>	g's	su <sub>nose</sub>	su <sub>side</sub>	Se <sub>nose</sub>	Se <sub>side</sub>		pcf	lb	lb	ft	ft <sup>2</sup>	ft <sup>2</sup>	lb	lb	
14	0.000	21.000	1.988	0.000	0.000	0.000	23.019	0.715	72.356	72.000	1.000	1.000	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
15	0.020	20.995	1.988	0.005	0.460	0.005	23.012	0.715	72.356	72.000	1.261	1.262	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
16	0.040	20.982	1.988	0.018	0.920	0.021	22.992	0.715	72.356	72.000	1.436	1.437	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
17	0.060	20.959	1.988	0.041	1.380	0.046	22.958	0.714	72.356	72.000	1.567	1.569	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
18	0.080	20.926	1.988	0.074	1.839	0.082	22.911	0.712	72.356	72.000	1.673	1.675	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
19	0.100	20.885	1.988	0.115	2.296	0.129	22.851	0.710	72.356	72.000	1.760	1.762	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20	0.120	20.835	1.988	0.165	2.752	0.185	22.777	0.708	72.356	72.000	1.835	1.837	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
21	0.140	20.775	1.988	0.225	3.207	0.231	22.691	0.705	72.356	72.000	1.900	1.902	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
22	0.160	20.706	1.988	0.294	3.660	0.327	22.591	0.702	72.356	72.000	1.958	1.960	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
23	0.180	20.629	1.988	0.371	4.111	0.412	22.480	0.699	72.356	72.000	2.009	2.012	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
24	0.200	20.542	1.988	0.458	4.539	0.507	22.356	0.695	72.356	72.000	2.056	2.058	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
25	0.220	20.446	1.988	0.554	5.005	0.611	22.220	0.691	72.356	72.000	2.098	2.100	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
26	0.240	20.342	1.988	0.658	5.448	0.724	22.072	0.686	72.356	72.000	2.137	2.139	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
27	0.260	20.228	1.988	0.772	5.888	0.846	21.913	0.681	72.356	72.000	2.172	2.174	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
28	0.280	20.106	1.988	0.894	6.324	0.976	21.743	0.676	72.356	72.000	2.205	2.207	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
29	0.300	19.975	1.988	1.025	6.757	1.114	21.562	0.670	72.356	72.000	2.235	2.237	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30	0.320	19.836	1.988	1.164	7.186	1.260	21.371	0.664	72.356	72.000	2.264	2.266	6.168	0.000	0.000	17.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	



## Penetrometer Specifications

### **3-inch Penetrometer**

Dry Weight= 21.1 lbs

Wet Weight= 17.6 lbs

Diameter= 3 in

Nose Length= 3.25 in

Body Length= 25.5 in

### **9-inch Penetrometer**

Dry Weight = 146.1 lbs

Wet Weight = 104.66 lbs

Diameter = 9 in

Nose Length = 6.5 in

Body Length = 39 in